







DEKALB  
OLD  
SETTLERS  
MEETINGS

A19

4/2003  
Bindery

ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY  
603 S. Jackson St.  
Auburn, IN 46706





# OLD SETTLER'S MEETINGS



DEKALB COUNTY INDIANA

1878-1913



INDIANA COLLECTION

**ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY  
AUBURN, INDIANA  
925-2414**

1. Books may be kept two weeks and may be renewed for the same period.
2. A fine will be charged on each book which is not returned according to the above rule. No book will be issued to any person incurring an excessive fine until it has been paid.
3. All injuries to books beyond reasonable wear and all losses shall be made good to the satisfaction of the Librarian.
4. Each borrower is held responsible for all materials drawn on his card and for all fines accruing on the same.

DEMCO



R  
977277  
THI  
(Co. Hist)  
Dineen

ILLUSTRATIONS

ARFORD, Charles S.....	206
ARFORD, Mildred F.....	206
ARFORD, Susan L. (Shade).....	206
BAXTER, John W.....	45
BUCHANAN, John Edgar.....	83
BUNGE, Caroline (Shoupe).....	161
BUNGE, Fredrick H.T.....	161
BUTT, John.....	54
CAMPBELL, James.....	11
CAMPBELL, Alvira (Campbell).....	11
COLLINS, Andrew Jackson.....	176
COLLINS, Sarah (Gros).....	176
COOL, Sarah Ann (Bassett).....	57
CULBERTSON, Hugh R.....	181
DANNELLS, Willis Archibald.....	169
DICKENSON, Sherman.....	30
FAIR GROUNDS, (Waterloo).....	58
FIRST HOUSE BUILT.....	29
FRIEND, Morris Wilson, Family.....	171
FRIEND, Susanna (Deter).....	171
HINE, Catherine A. (Houser).....	112
HINE, Sheldon Horatio.....	112
HOULTON, Caroline (Martin).....	151
HOULTON, John.....	29
HOULTON, Lewis.....	151
HOULTON, Nancy (Lewis).....	29
HOULTON, William Lewis, Family.....	160
KELHAM, Edward.....	190
KELLY, Thomas.....	112
KLINE, Michael.....	7
KLINE, Anna Maria (Summers).....	7
KUHLMAN, Colonel Aubrey L.....	168
LAWHEAD, James George.....	210
LEAS, Daniel Lewis.....	209
LEAS, William Henry.....	205
LEIGHTY, Jacob D.....	55
MAPLE GROVE PLACE.....	70
MASTERS, Moses Baldwin.....	118
MASTERS, Sarah (Mochamer).....	118
MC CLELLAN, Charles A.O.....	30
MC CLELLAN, James Y.W.....	170
MERCER, Hon. William M., M.D.....	212
MOTT, Hon. Robert Benson.....	31
MOTT, Mary (Winterbottom).....	31
MOTT, Lieut. Sheridan E.....	33
MOUNTZ, Howard Wesley.....	176
MOUNTZ, Margaret A. (Clement).....	176
OLD JAIL.....	133
OLD TRACTOR.....	61
REINOEHL, Martha (Eckhart).....	134
REINOEHL, Solomon.....	134
PROVINES, Alexander.....	142

DOES NOT CIRCULATE

ECKHART PUBLIC LIB

8401 9100 005 730 3



SCHOOL BUS.....	61
SHEETS, Christian.....	56
SHEETS, Margaret (Carr).....	56
SHOEMAKER, Emanuel Roger.....	6
SMITH, Iona (Zerkle).....	161
SMITH, John Henry.....	161
SQUIRE, Family.....	110
SQUIRE, Nathan.....	110
SQUIRE, Asher.....	110
STROH, Adam.....	211
STROH, Henry.....	118
STROH, Elizabeth (Mottinger).....	118
VOGTMAN, Andrew, Family.....	213
WANEMAKER, Samuel.....	69
WARTENBE, Cordelia (Wanemaker).....	70
WARTENBE, Stewart P.....	70
WIDNEY, Oliver H.....	76
WILLIS, Capt. Moses B.....	207
WILLIS, Frank W.....	189
WILLIS, Herbert C.....	208
WYATT, John W., Homestead.....	160



DeKalb County Road Map 1980

THIRTY FIVE YEARS  
OLD SETTLER'S MEETINGS  
OF  
DE KALB COUNTY, INDIANA

Illustrated

Transcribed by:

A.A. Goodwin and J.W. Goodwin



Dedicated to the memory of the Pioneer's and old settlers of De Kalb County, whom with their determination and will-power have helped to make our county what it is today. Also to the people who have worked so hard to preserve that heritage, which has been instilled in most of us here today.



# DeKalb County Road Map 1880









## PIONEER ASSOCIATION

### (Old Settlers Meetings)

In most of the counties in the Northwestern States, the old settlers have effected organizations for the purpose of holding frequent reunions, renewing the ties of friendship, collecting historical mementoes, and recording reminiscences, details of early history, etc.. There can be but one opinion as to the certain benefits inuring from such meetings. DeKalb County has been a little backward in this particular, but it is to be hoped that a growing interest will be felt in the association which has been in existence for the past few years. After frequent suggestions and occasional discussions the first meeting was appointed for July 4, 1878, at the celebration of Independence Day, at Auburn.

History of DeKalb County Indiana 1885---Page 417

\*\*\*\*\*

### PREPARATION FOR THE FOURTH

#### A GRAND CELEBRATION

#### OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

We are able to announce this week that our citizens have determined to celebrate the Fourth in grand style. In connection therewith a meeting of the old settlers' will take place, and music, speeches, sham battle, fire works, canonading with a battery of artillery, a delegation of Indians fresh from Sitting Bull, and everything else to make the occasion an enjoyable one, will be introduced. Everybody should make arrangements to attend. The following committees have been appointed: Committee of arrangements G.W. Gordon, R.H. Weamer, Henry Bashelier, John Leasure, L.J. Hopkins, and T. Mills.

Old Settlers' Committee, Butler, Peter Simmons; Jackson, Alex Provines and Henry Feagler; Concord, J.F. Coburn; Newville, B.F. Blair; Stafford, Henry Dickerhoof; Wilmington, Samuel Headley; Union, John Butt, S. Bassett, S.W. Ralston, Maj. S. W. Sprott, D. Altenburg, J.O.P. Sherlock and George Ensley; Richland, James Goetschius; Fairfield, George Emerick; Smithfield, E.R. Shoemaker; Franklin, George P. Firestone; Troy, Samuel Learned; Keyser, O.C. Clark, T.D. Gross was named as Superintendent.

President, Dr. Ford, Assistant Vice Presidents, the same as committee for old settlers.

Officer of the day, T.C. Mays. Assistant officer of the day, John Otto.

AUBURN COURIER-----13 June 1878-----Page 5 - Col 4

\*\*\*\*\*



## PREPARE FOR THE FOURTH

Excellent arrangements are being made for a grand celebration here on the Fourth. A meeting of the old settlers will take place for the first time in the county, and an organization will no doubt be effected. It is hoped that there will be a large number of this class in attendance. Hon. E.D. Hartman will deliver the oration. There will be fire works in the evening and several ascensions of illuminated balloons will be made.

AUBURN COURIER-----27 June 1878-----Page 5 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

### OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

A very good representation of the old settlers was present on the appointed day, and after the oration in the grove in the afternoon, they held a meeting to make arrangements for the future. The meeting was called to order by T.D. Gross, and on motion of John McClellan, Jas. R. Cosper was called to the chair and T.D. Gross was made Secretary. The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, that when this meeting adjourn, it will adjourn to meet at Auburn, September 12, 1878; and that all who were citizens of the county prior to January 1, 1846, are cordially invited to attend and participate in the meeting.

On motion, a committee of two from each township was appointed, to ascertain the number of old settlers in their respective townships, and notify and induce them to attend the next meeting, and perform such other duties as in their judgement would be for the best interests of the meeting.

The following were appointed: Peter Simmons and J.A. Miller, Butler-tp; A.D. Goetschius and Henry Brown, Jackson-tp; B.F. Blair and John Platter, Newville-tp; Samuel Wasson and J. Rhodes, Concord-tp; C.B. Wanemaker and C.L. Thomas, Stafford-tp; George Egnew and Nathan Mathews, Wilimington-tp; T.D. Gross and M. Waterman, Union-tp; O.C. Clark and William Embra, Keyser-tp; G. Showers and Thomas Daily, Richland-tp; W. Childs and P. Gushwa, Fairfield-tp; R.J. Daniels and Jerry Hemstreet, Smithfield-tp; John N. Clark and John Hammond, Franklin-tp; Wm. Emerson and John Stearns, Troy-tp.

On motion of Dr. Ford, all the papers of DeKalb county were requested to publish these proceedings.  
Adjourned.

J.R. Cosper, Chairman.

T.D. Gross, Secretary.

AUBURN COURIER-----11 July 1878-----Page 5 - Col. 6

\*\*\*\*\*

### OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

At a meeting of Old Settlers of DeKalb county, at

Auburn, Ind., on September 12th, 1878, Maj. S.W. Sprott was appointed Chairman and T.C. Mays, Secretary. Nelson Prentiss, Esq., of Noble County, being present was called upon to suggest a way to proceed to organize an old settlers' association, which he did after the manner followed in Noble County. He read a synopsis of the by-laws of the Noble County Old Settlers' Association, which were amended and adopted.

The following persons were in attendance, and the time given when they located in this county.

William Smith	May,	1836
Samuel Wasson	Dec.,	1833
S.D. Long	March,	1845
J.E. Rose	Oct.,	1836
Samuel Headly	Sept.,	1836
Philip Gushwa	March,	1845
S.B. Ward	Jan.,	1842
William Carr	Feb.,	1839
J.D. McAnnally	Sept.,	1840
N.H. Matthews	Oct.,	1839
C.P. Coleman	Dec.,	1842
R. Culbertson	Oct.,	1843
R.G. Daniels	Jan.,	1837
P.B. Nimmons	Aug.,	1844
N. Griffith	April,	1839
James Draggoo	Oct.,	1841
A.D. Goetschius	June,	1836
Paul Long	Feb.,	1841
John Hogue	June,	1842
D. McDaniel	June,	1843
Isaac Deihl	June,	1843
A.J. Ralston	Dec.,	1842
James Johnson	Aug.,	1844
N. Ensley	Oct.,	1841
J.E. Shilling	April,	1845
G.W. Gordon	Oct.,	1841
Henry Clark	Oct.,	1842
J.C. Wells	June,	1844
D. Altenburg	Nov.,	1837
R.B. Showers	Feb.,	1839
W. Jacques	Oct.,	1845
Thomas D. Dailey	March,	1841
Levi J. Walsworth	Nov.,	1837
C. Bowman	Oct.,	1839
Henry Feagler	Sept.,	1836
M. Whetsel	May,	1837
John McClellan	Oct.,	1844
J.H. Ford	Nov.,	1844
A. Blodgett	Aug.,	1842
Peter Treesh	Oct.,	1842
Henry A. Shull	Sept.,	1844
David Weaver	Aug.,	1838
A.S. Casebeer	Sept.,	1837
G.W. Husselman	May,	1845



Abraham Eakright	Sept.,	1836
D.Z. Hoffman	May,	1845
J.C. Somers	Aug.,	1841
S.W. Sprott	July,	1840
T.D. Gross	March,	1841
Guy Plum	June,	1843
Henry Willis	Oct.,	1843
Charles Gillett	Oct.,	1843
Cornelia P. Cole	June,	1842
Sarah Bowman	March,	1841
Eliza Wason	Sept.,	1837
Caroline Whetsel	Sept.,	1841
M.J. Husselman	Oct.,	1845
Anna McDaniel	May,	1843
Mary Siebert	Aug.,	1836
Maria Ingman	Aug.,	1836
Almira Martin	May,	1836
S.A. Griffith	Nov.,	1839
Anna Kline	Aug.,	1841
Mary McClellan	Aug.,	1841
Rachel Treesh	Oct.,	1842

On motion it was decided to hold next meeting at Auburn.

On motion each member of the Ex. Committee was requested to take the names of all old settlers in their respective townships, who settled in DeKalb county prior to January 1846, and report them with the date of their arrival to the Secretary of this association.

S.W. Sprott, Chairman.

T.C. Mays, Sec'y.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Elder S.B. Ward; Vice-President, P.B. Nimmons; Secretary, W.H. Dills; Treasurer, Cyrus Bowman; Biographer and Librarian, J.E. Rose. An executive committee was chosen consisting of one from each township: Butler, John Hogue; Keyser, O.C. Clark; Jackson, William Carr; Concord, R. Culbertson; Newville, B.F. Blair; Wilmington, Samuel Headley; Auburn, T.D. Gross; Waterloo, John Butt; Richland, N. Griffith; Fairfield, Philip Gushwa; Smithfield, R.G. Daniels; Franklin, R.N. Keep; Troy, William Emerson; Stafford, Henry Wanemaker.

The following articles of association were adopted:

- I. This association shall be called the Pioneers' Association of DeKalb County, Indiana.
- II. The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Biographer and Librarian, and an executive committee, consisting of one from each township, who shall hold their offices for one year and until their successors are elected.
- III. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the society, and in his absence the Vice-President shall preside, and in the absence of both the society shall elect a President pro tem.
- IV. The Secretary shall procure at the expense of the society a substantial book in which he shall record these

articles of association, and the proceedings of all meetings, annual and special, together with all written and printed addresses, delivered before the annual meetings, and all biographical sketches of such members as shall die during each year, and shall conduct all correspondence of the society, and perform such other duties appertaining to his office as the society may direct.

V. It shall be the duty of the Biographer to present to the society at each annual meeting the names of all such members as have died since the last annual meeting, together with sketches of their lives.

VI. The Librarian shall take charge of all relics and mementoes of the early settlement of DeKalb County, and of all books and papers deposited with him, and shall carefully preserve the same; and shall record in a book kept for that purpose all such relics, the name and residence of each donor and the date of the gift.

VII. The executive committee shall have a general supervision of the affairs of the society, seven of whom shall constitute a quorum. They shall have power to call special meetings when in their opinion the interest of the society shall demand, and arrange the program of proceedings of regular meetings, procure speakers, and see that a suitable place is provided for holding the meeting; and in addition to their general duties it shall be the duty of each member for his respective township to report to the biographer the names of such members as shall die during each year within ten days after each death; such information to give the name, date and place of birth, time of settlement in Indiana, date of death, and such other facts as he shall deem of importance.

VIII. The annual meeting of the society shall be held on the third Thursday in June in each year.

IX. All persons who were residents of Northern Indiana prior to January 1, 1846, and who are residents of DeKalb County, shall be considered member of this society.

X. Amendments to these regulations may be made at any regular or called meeting, by a vote of a majority of the members present, provided that no change shall be made at a special meeting, unless notice of such proposed change be given in one or more of the newspapers of DeKalb County, not less than thirty days before such meeting.

AUBURN COURIER-----19 September 1878-----Page 1 - Col. 5&6

\*\*\*\*\*





**EMANUEL ROGER SHOEMAKER:** Elected DeKalb County  
Commissioner, November 1896. Resided in Smithfield Township.



**MICHAEL AND ANYA MARIA (SUMMERS) KLINE:** Resided in Auburn until 1855, when they purchased 160 acres of land in Richland Township, near Corunna.



## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

### THE SEVERAL SUB-COMMITTEES, TO-WIT:

On speakers and program, R. Culbertson, J.E. Rose and Guy Plum.

On site for meeting, T.D. Gross, Wm. Carr, and D.K. Houghton.

On music, Mrs. Dr. Swartz, M.F. Long, Miss Cyddie Hare, Jos. W. McKay and John Treesh are requested to meet at 2 o'clock p.m., Saturday, May 3rd instst, at the Central House, for consultation, and to make further arrangements for the annual meeting to be held June 19th next.

W.H. Dills, Sec'y.

AUBURN COURIER-----1 May 1879-----Page 5 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

The first annual meeting of the Pioneers association of DeKalb county, met in a grove on Ensley Avenue, between Auburn and Auburn Junction. Present, all the officers of the association and executive committee, and also a large number of the citizens of DeKalb and adjoining counties, variously estimated at from 3,000 to 4,000.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Elder S.B. Ward, and after the reading by the Secretary, of the program of exercises of the day, as adopted by the executive committee, the meeting was opened with an address to the Throne of Grace by the Chaplain, Rev. John McCurdy, of Troy Township. The orator of the day, Hon. John Morris, now of Fort Wayne, but formerly a resident of this county, was introduced and addressed the meeting in an eloquent, entertaining and pleasant manner for an hour.

Peter Kiser, of Fort Wayne, being present, was requested to address the meeting until 12 noon, but he considering it an insult to him to be limited, refused to speak. Thereupon a recess until 1:30 was taken for refreshments. The recess taken was most agreeably occupied by the nearly all in social greetings, pleasant renewal of old acquaintances, the formation of new ones, and in the partaking of the abundant supply of provisions which nearly every family present brought with them, while a large number retired to the village to partake of the hospitalities of the citizens of Auburn.

After reassembling, Hon. Andrew Ellison, of LaGrange County, very highly, pleasantly and agreeably entertained the meeting for half an hour. The reports of the secretary were then read and approved. The biographer then read the list of names of the old settlers who have died since the meeting held last September. The following are their names with their age at death; and when they settled in the state, herein to wit:

Hannah Flint, born Sept. 7, 1807, became resident of DeKalb County in March, 1839, died Oct. 25, 1878.

Lewis Tiffany, born in 1806, became resident Feb. 17, 1842, died Oct. 21, 1878.

Charles H. Wanemaker, born June 14, 1827, became resident in October, 1844, died Jan. 1, 1879.

Henry Brown, born in 1811, became a resident in September, 1837, died March 18, 1879.

Peter Simon became a resident in March, 1835, died Nov. 3, 1878.

Jane Jones, born May 26, 1839, became resident in 1844, died Jan. 22, 1879.

Hannah M. Hathaway born in 1802, became a resident in 1844, died Jan. 25, 1879.

Richard Parnell, born June 23, 1790, became a resident in October, 1842, died Aug. 28, 1878.

John Parnell, born April 6, 1826, became a resident in October, 1842, died Jan. 31, 1879.

James Campbell, born Oct 2, 1810, became a resident in 1842, died Feb. 28, 1879.

Hannah Campbell, born Sept. 23, 1814, became a resident in 1842, died Feb. 20, 1879.

John F. Coburn (first County Clerk), born July 26, 1806, became a resident in March, 1836, died April 8, 1879.

Jesse Hadley became a resident in 1837, died in February, 1879.

Arial Rude, born Jan. 7, 1810, became a resident in 1836, died May 3, 1879.

Short addresses were then listened to from Colonel I.B. McDonald, of Whitley County; Major S.W. Sprott of Auburn; Samuel Wasson, of Concord, and J.W. Jeffords, of Waterloo.

On motion the executive committee was requested to report names to fill the offices of the association for the coming year. Whereupon they reported the names of, and requested the re-election of the officers of the past year, as follows:

President,	S.B. Ward,
Vice-president,	P.B. Nimmons,
Secretary,	W.H. Dills,
Treasurer,	Cyrus Bowman,
Biographer and	
Librarian	J.E. Rose,

and the said officers elect the executive committee for the coming year, and thereupon (T.D. Gross, the chairman of the Ex. Com., acting as president for the time being) said report was adopted.

On motion it was unanimously resolved, that the thanks of this association and of the audience present, be tendered to the speakers, Morris, Ellison, McDonald and others, to the choirs of the churches of Auburn for vocal music, and to the Corunna band for instrumental music, and also to Mr. Karns for the use of one of his organs.

The benediction was then pronounced by the Rev. J. Rice, after which the meeting adjourned to meet on the 3rd Thursday of June, 1880, at such place as the executive committee may



determine.

As part of the proceedings of the day, there were called to the stand and introduced to the audience the following persons; Mrs. Margaret Cummins (a daughter of the late John Houlton, first settler of the county), the first white child born in the county, April 7, 1836; Mrs. J.R. Moody (daughter of the late Abraham Fair), the second white female child born in the county, April 17, 1836; and James Platter, the first white male child born in the county, in October, 1836. There was also presented to view the surveyor's compass and chain, used and owned by the late Hon. R.J. Dawson, in the original survey of the public lands in Northeastern Indiana, which were recognized by Samuel Wasson, then a chairman. Mr. Wasson is the oldest living settler in the county at present. J.W. Jeffords, in his remarks, exhibited the ax used in chopping the timber for the first house erected in the county, which was John Houlton's, of Franklin Township. The ax now weighs six and a half pounds, but originally its weight was between eight and nine pounds. He also showed a field hoe which he made forty-two years, before, at Hamilton, Steuben County.

At 4 p.m. the audience was dismissed, with hopes of many such meetings in the future.

S.B. Ward, Pres't.

W.H. Dills, Sec'y.

AUBURN COURIER-----26 June 1879-----Page 1 - Col. 2&3

\*\*\*\*\*



**JAMES AND ALVIRA (CAMPBELL) CAMPBELL:** Purchased 43 acres of land in Wilmington Township, in section 3 and 10, west of Butler, Indiana. He continued to farm until 1880, when he worked as a railroad hand, later the family moved to Stafford Township.



The association adjourned to meet at such place as the executive committee might appoint, in 1880, but no meeting was held that year. The presidential campaign and two soldiers' reunions seemed to prevent sufficient interest on the part of the leading citizens.

History of DeKalb county Indiana 1885-----Page 445

\*\*\*\*\*

#### OLD SETTLERS.

May 19, 1881, the Auxillary committee of the Pioneer association of DeKalb county met and appointed the following sub-committees to make the necessary arrangements for the annual meeting of the society at Auburn, June 16:

On grounds--Dr. Ford, D.Z. Hoffman, S.W. Ralston.

On speakers and chaplain-- J.E. Rose, S.W. Sprott, S.B. Ward.

On music-- N. Ensley, Ora Shaffer, L.J. Miller, Mrs. T.C. Mays, Mrs. Lottie Osgood, Mrs. A. Lewis.

On program-- G.C. Ralston, W.H. Dills, D.Y. Husselman,

On Finances-- C. Beugnot, L.J. Miller, Jos. Rainier.

The several sub committees are requested to meet the auxillary committee at the soldiers' hall to-morrow (Friday) evening at half-past seven sharp, for the purpose of consultation, and to take such other action as may be deemed necessary to forward the object of the association.

W.H. Dills, Sec'y.

AUBURN COURIER-----26 May 1881-----Page 5 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*

#### OLD SETTLERS.

##### THE FATHERS OF OUR COUNTY IN COUNCIL TO-DAY.

The old settlers of this and adjoining counties are here to-day having a good time in general, and talking of the days "when you and I were boys." The attendance is quite large, and all seem glad to have another hearty, friendly grasp of each other's hand. The old gentlemen enjoy themselves at one of these gatherings apparently as well as the rural chap does following a circus parade. Music, speeches, ets., are the order of the day.

AUBURN COURIER-----16 June 1881-----Page 5 - Col. 1

\*\*\*\*\*

#### OLD SETTLERS' RE-UNION.

The Pioneer Association of DeKalb County met in their annual re-union on Thursday, June 16, 1881, in the private

grove of Mrs. O.C. Houghton, at Auburn. There was a good attendance of the old settlers, who, with others present made a very respectable meeting in point of numbers. The president, P.B. Nimmons and other officers were present. Under the charge of the marshal, General Blair, of Waterloo, headed by the Corunna Band, the old settlers formed in line at 10:30 A.M., at the courthouse square, and marched to the grove, where, after vocal and instrumental music, the Throne of Grace was given by Rev. John McCurdy, of Butler, after which an address was delivered by W.H. Dills was listened to with much interest. After a recess of an hour and a half, which was occupied in hand-shaking, and hearty greetings, and the partaking of dinner from well filled baskets, the association resumed the further exercises, consisting in the report of offices which were approved. On motion C.K. Baxter, J.E. Rose and W. H. Dills were appointed a committee to report to the association names of suitable persons to act as officers for the coming year: whereupon said committee made report as follows: Dr. J.H. Ford, president; Cyrus Bowman, treasurer; J.E. Rose, Biographer; W.H. Dills, secretary.

Executive committee: Phillip Noel, Butler-tp; Wm. Carr, Jackson-tp; R. Culbertson, Concord-tp; S.H. Bartlett, Newville; C.R. Wannemaker, Stafford; E.W. Fosdick, Wilmington; J.R. Cosper, Auburn precinct; H. Willis, Waterloo precinct; O.C. Clark, Keyser-tp; T.D. Daily, Richland; Josiah Wells, Fairfield; J.E. Thompson, Smithfield; M. Waterman, Franklin; W. R. Emerson, Troy.

This report, on motion, was received and adopted.

On motion of Major Sprott, it was resolved that a copy of the address be furnished each of the county papers, accompanied with a request for publication. It was also resolved that the thanks of this society are hereby tendered to the choir for the excellent vocal music discoursed by them on this occasion. The choir was composed as follows; Chorister, Miss Frankie Ryan, assisted by Mrs. Mays, Mrs. A. Lewis, Missies Sprott and Matheny and Messrs Littlefield, Widney, Yesbera, and Shepherd.

The following communication was read:

Waterloo, Ind., June 16, 1881.

The officers and members of the Northeastern Ind. Agri, Ass'n. tender to the officers and members of the Old Settlers Ass'n. of DeKalb County, an invitation to attend the fair at Waterloo, October 4, 1881. Those who choose to accept the invitation will be admitted upon a certificate from the secretary of your association.

C.A.O. McClellan, pres.

Jno. Butt, R.N. Crooks,

L.J. Blair, R.M. Lockhart

On motion the above invitation was accepted with thanks.

Short speeches were listened to from S.B. Ward, S.H. Bartlett, S.W. Sprott, John McCurdy, and Lewis Holibrook. Relics were then exhibited by Mrs. Burdie and Wm. Smith, after which Rev. McCurdy entertained the assembly with and old fashioned Methodist hymn.

The biographer reported the following deaths of old



settlers; Catharine Jennings, born Jan. 14, 1806, became resident in 1843, died Feb. 20 1881. Enos Smith, born 22 June 1821, became a resident in 1842, died Aug. 8, 1880. Rebecca Coats, born Aug. 10, 1827, became resident in 1845, died April 18, 1881. Alice Egnew, born in 1815, became resident of LaGrange County in 1832, of this county in 1840, died March 6, 1879. James W. Jeffords, born Aug. 22, 1809, came to Steuben County in 1837, to this county in 1842, died Oct. 3, 1881.

Taken all in all this meeting was one of the best ever held by this society. The order and decorum observed the arrangement of the exercises, the pleasant grove of Mrs. Houghton, so generously tendered, the addresses, the vocal and instrumental music the generous hospitality, of all, old acquaintances renewed and new ones formed, all render the occasion one long to be remembered by all present.

P.B. Nimmons, Pres.

W.H. Dills, Sec'y.

AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1881-----Page 4 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **AN ADDRESS**

**Delivered at Auburn, Ind., June 16, 1881,**  
**at the Fourth Annual Reunion of**  
**Pioneer Association of DeKalb County,**

BY W.H. DILLS.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen and Members of the Pioneer Association of DeKalb County: Between thirty-five and forty years ago, the period in which the people we recognize and designate as "old settlers" first settled in Northern Indiana, during that time when we met and became acquainted, that meeting was held and acquaintances made almost invariably, not as we meet to-day, under the beautiful trees set out and cultivated by the hand of man for his profit, but it was beneath the towering forms and broad branches of the giant trees of the native forest, planted nurtured and reared by the hand of God for His divine purpose. Instead of enjoying the sweet perfume of domestic plants and flowers placed around us by the hands of youth and innocence, we met amid the aroma of the wild flowers of the forest.

And also. instead of being enwrapped and encircled with the beautiful flag of our country; that same flag, with the same stripes, but with less stars then, waved far above and over beyond our vision and was the same protection and the same insignia of freedom and unity, unsullied and unblemished then as now.

Then we met by twos and threes; now by the thousand--a fitting and beautiful contrast of this country to-day and as

it was then.

Robert Burns, the great Scottish bard, sang to the world, nearly one hundred years ago:

"Shall auld acquaintance be forgot  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And days o' lang syne?

"We a' hae run about the braes  
And pu'ed the gowans fine.  
But we've wandered many a weary foot,  
Sin' auld lang syne.

"And here's a hand, my trusty fiere,  
And gie's a hand o' thine.  
And we'll take a right gued willie-waught  
For auld lang syne.

Kindly recollections of the past, fond memories of early friends, associates and acquaintances are well worthy the song of the bard or poet, at all times and in all places. These feelings and sentiments spring up spontaneously in the human heart, and are closely allied to the tenderest chords that vibrate in the human breast. Naturally, and as I said, spontaneously, they flow from the almost hidden recesses of the heart and memory; next in succession are the sweet yet sorrowful but enduring recollections of an adored mother. These sentiments and early memories of friends and associates, are of the kindlier feelings of our nature, and like those of filial and maternal love should be cherished and cultured. They make us all better men and women, the skies seem brighter, our future seems brighter, and our path way through life is brighter. By cherishing and cultivating these memories we forget the sorrows and burdens of the day; we cast aside the dull heavy cares of life we look back and enjoy the bright side and pleasures of this life, and the dull, dark days and heavy clouds which at times seemed to surround and threaten us with destruction, leave no trace to embitter the soul and render life a failure. Those who do not cherish and cultivate these sentiments fail to realize the joys of living. They become sour and morose, live lives of melancholy, lives of disappointment, and not only hate others, but absolutely hate themselves. Instead of thinking and speaking well of early associates and surroundings, the disappointed man or woman is always speaking and thinking ill of the past and its memories; and their evil thinking and speaking is not confined to the past, but by their long course of meditation on the dark side of life, they are continually thinking and speaking ill of their present associates and surroundings. They do not enjoy the pleasures of this life, nor indeed can they--nor are they here today. They would not enjoy these exercises and the memories that will arise from associating with these bent forms and gray heads,--these forms and heads which have with stood the heat of at least thirty-five summers' sun and the cold of thirty-



five freezing winters in this county. That class of whom I have spoken, who look upon the dark side of the picture of life, are not here to-day. They would not enjoy our society, nor would they add to our enjoyments. Let us remember them with kindness, and that they are entitled to our sympathies.

Before proceeding further, ladies and gentlemen, let me congratulate you upon this, our fourth reunion of the Pioneer Association of DeKalb County. Once more in the providence of God we have the blessed opportunity of looking into the faces of and taking by the hand those who were in part at least, instrumental in bringing civilization and enlightenment into the deep and heavy forests which once covered the entire surface of this country. Look at it to-day, you of younger years in life and of residence in our midst, and contemplate what the scenery was during the twelve years following the first settlement of this county.

Again on this occasion we are glad to meet so many of those who in early life quitted the society of their childhood homes where they were surrounded by not only the necessities but also the luxuries of life, to find homes in a then absolute wilderness. Here you, my old friends, came more than a generation ago, with only your household goods and your own strong arms and determined will--with no cleared land to cultivate, no markets at which to purchase the necessaries of life, even if you had the money to buy with, no roads, no school houses, no mills, no churches, and no society save the wild men and beasts of the forest.

It is sad, very sad, my friends, however, to reflect that many of the noble souls who have heretofore attended our meetings will not be present to-day or at any of our future meetings. Their bodies have returned to mother earth. Their work and toil and labor is past. They cleared away the heavy forests, they built for us homes, planted orchards, built schoolhouses, churches, highways, bridges, raised their children and devised unto them honorable names, and performed every duty toward their country and their race. They have passed away forever, and we know them now only by the kindly remembrances that are placed upon the tablets of our memories.

I am sorry that I cannot give out the names of our members who have died within the last year. Mr. Rose, the biographer, complains very bitterly that he has not been furnished with the proper information from the local committeemen. This, my friends, is a derilection of our duty, that we so justly owe these old men and women who come here in early days, and who have done so much that it is almost criminal and sacrilegious that we make no mention of their good and worthy deeds. It is absolutely wrong that these brave heroes should thus die and be thus forgotten.

These persons to whom I have just called your attention, and you who are here to-day, members of this society, are heroes in the true sense of the term. Not military chieftains, nor those who from ambitious motives for place and power are overturning policies and dynasties; but they and you sought and determined to and did conquer and subdue a wilderness to found a colony which to-day smiles with

civilization and enterprise, peace and plenty, nurtured and fostered by your and their hands, and those who followed in the track which you and they had broken.

We can very well remember seeing these early settlers and their families, with their white-covered wagon, the wife or daughter driving, the father and boys following, and driving, with the aid of a dog, a cow or two, sometimes a few sheep---all wending their way toward the setting sun or plunging into the forest, and hauling up or stopping upon a tract of land upon which not a tree had been cut, and where for ages the rays of the orb of day had not penetrated, amidst the chorus of the feathered songsters of the grove and the silence of the night disturbed only by the hootings of the owl, or the indescribable howlings of hungry wolves. There you, or the fathers of you who came in early times, halted their wagons, which contained all they had on earth, and there to-day you will find comfort, luxury and ease.

Before reaching that final resting place weeks and months had passed in reaching the goal, following Indian trails scarcely wide enough to admit of the passage of a wagon, no bridges, dangers to be encompassed on every side, the early settler was of necessity his own sentinel, and upon himself relied for protection and safety. The trails would sometimes seem to run out--come to an end. Sometimes they would divide and created doubt as to the course that should be pursued. He had no compass and could not tell the cardinal points, but by an examination of trees he could tell the north side of them by the heaviest growth of moss or bark, and thereby determine his course. When night came ere he reached his destination, by the side of the trail, where water and grass were sufficient, he would build a fire, without the aid of matches, by the side of some huge logs, and there prepare their meal, his wife and little ones retiring to sleep in the wagon, and he, wrapped in a blanket, on the leaves under it, with his faithful dog on one side and his trusty rifle on the other, there seek repose and rest, with as much confidence of safety and exemption from injury as you did last evening upon your downy couches, within bolted doors.

After reaching his land, purchased of the Government at \$1.25 per acre, or from some speculator for two, three or four dollars per acre, the pioneer finds for a time that his neighbors are few and far between, like angels' visits. There he could not hear his neighbors' chickens crow, their dogs bark, or their dinner bell or horn. With difficulty he at last succeeds in building his rude little cabin and in clearing off a few acres, by cutting down all the trees eighteen inches or less in diameter, and girdling all the others, which will give him a short supply of corn and vegetables. As for meats, he has none, except as he depends upon the chances to taking game from the forest, and then eat it, very often, without even salt or bread.

The privations of the early settler were great, but often their perils were still greater. Diseases, indigenous to a new county, of which he had previously no knowledge or experience. Malaria, generally, in their character, were certain to overtake him and his family. The massive foliage



of the giant trees through which the sun scarcely penetrated, and the black soil vegetation, and the decayed vegetable matter everywhere abounding, generated vast volumes and columns of miasma. No physician or drug store, probably within twenty miles, himself and family were racked almost to death with the shakes, or scorched with raging fevers. Until acclimated by a residence of from two to five years, and sometimes longer, the early settler was yearly visited with attacks of fever and ague, and felt thankful, indeed, if in the fall seasons he did not have an attack of bilious or intermittent fever. Snake bites, broken or cut limbs, and rheumatism from his frequent exposure were of frequent occurrence, and no medical aid at hand. Indeed the hearts of these men and women were brave. A man may stand unmoved at the mouth of a cannon, yet the pitiful moans of a sick wife, the delirious tossing and crying of his children with consuming fevers, without medicine or a doctor, or even sympathizing friends or neighbors within miles would no doubt draw a tear that would rush down the sunburned face and would, fill his very soul with the deepest sorrow and solicitude. So, too, it would be, if it were possible, tenfold more sorrowful to the wife should the husband and protector be stricken down. Even in health their privations seem almost incredible to us. Lumber was not to be had at any price; mills were distant, and what roads there were, were almost impassable. A journey of weeks, sometimes, leaving the wife and children, was necessary to obtain the necessaries of life. Families were almost driven to the verge of starvation, living for weeks on potatoes, wheat bran, and I have heard, on beach-bark and milk. The private history of the sufferings, privations and heroic endurance of many families in early times in this country has not been, nor will it ever be, written. Many, nearly all, of those who have suffered and endured as I have stated, have gone where the weary are at rest, and there is no land to clear, no cabins to raise, no sufferings, no solicitude--the grave--has put its seal on their history. Peace be to their ashes.

The same band from who I have quoted, again sung, long years ago:

John Anderson my jo, John,  
When we were first acquent  
Your locks were like the raven.  
Your bonnie brow was brent;  
But now your brow is beld, John,  
Your locks are like the snaw;  
But blessings on your frosty pow,  
John Anderson my jo.

John Anderson my jo, John,  
We climbed the hill the gither;  
And monie a canty day, John,  
We've had wi' and anither'  
Now we maun totter down, John,  
But hand in hand we'll go;

And sleep thegither at the foot,  
John Anderson my jo.

All who belong to our association are at least thirty-five and half years old, all at least are in the prime of life, or are tottering down the hill to sleep, as all must sleep "thegither" at the foot. When first we met many years ago, our looks and brows were not gray and "beld" and although we may differ in politics and religion, and many other things of a secondary or ephemeral character, yet down the hill we will go, hand in hand "thegither."

In early days we asked not whether the new comer was a Whig or a Democrat, Jew or Gentile, Methodist or Baptist, rich or poor; all we wanted to know was that he was a neighbor and a man. These inquiries as to a man's religious or political opinions were not thought of. Was he a good fellow, truthful, honest and charitable? If he had not these qualities, he did not stay long enough in our midst to become an old settler. Those who did not come up to that standard either returned to their old homes or sought other localities long years ago.

When we now look back and review the lives of the pioneers, criticise their character in view of their surroundings, and with the aid of now experienced judgments, although we may detect errors in their lives, yet is there not something over and above these short comings that we admire? Is there a man or woman here to-day who can stand up and truthfully say aught against the brave men and women who sought and subdued this wilderness, which we may now revel in and enjoy so well? Look around you and recall their manly and their noble deeds, and hardened and uncharitable will be the heart that will tarnish their character or speak illy of their ashes. It took bold and brave men and women to subdue this wilderness, to blaze out the road and bring into it civilization and enlightenment, and it is the bold and brave men and women who have strong points of character. They are those too, who have sternness, fortitude, and determination, and with that class you will always find, almost to overflowing, veins of kindness, sympathy and charity, that is the true secret for our respect and admiration for those old settlers. They were brave, rough and nearly always uncouth in outward appearance, yet with a heart all aglow with kindness and sympathy. Did you ever hear of one of those early settlers, even if his cabin only had but one room, or his last morsel of corn meal had been baked, refuse the hospitalities of humble home to a man or a family who entered his door? Did you, in those times know of any who would refuse to attend a house raising or log rolling for his neighbor, although it would be two, four, six or eight miles distant? Or if a neighbor was sick or disabled from any cause, refuse to plant his corn, harvest his crops, or any other act of similar character? And after these acts of kindness had been performed, if the sick or disabled neighbor would offer to pay them or their labor, they would feel insulted.

At the risk of wearying you, and I know you would be glad



to listen to me an hour, I will name a few of those veterans who were the formost men of the county in 1845, but who have gone to their long homes. Let us speak reverently of them, too. Their faults were human, but their good qualities and manly virtues will commend them to our consideration. I will give them by townships in the usual order, leaving out Keyser, which was not then formed:

BUTLER-----The Brooks, Henry Clark and sons, George Delong, the Embrys, Abraham and Charles Fair, Nathaniel Fitch, the Greggs, the Bells, father and son, the Hoffmans, Hogues, Holbrooks, Jacksons, Lungs, Millers, Rodenbaughs, Reeves, Shulls, Simons, Surface, Natts and Wellers.

JACKSON-----The Bishops, Cools, Cobblers, Komeskys, Daves, Draggos, Essigs, Georges, Hurshes, Hendersons, Hartles, Johnsons, Lawheads, Means, Moores, Mowries, Osburns, Sugars, Staffords, Squiers, Stewards, Tarneys, Watsons, Wyatts, Williams and Zimmermans.

CONCORD-----The Allens, Altons, Burleys, Blairs, Balls, Carrs, Culbertsons, Coburns, Catlins, Draggos, Dawsons, Fales, Headleys, Johnsons, Knights, McNabbs, Nichols, Owens, Robinsons, Rhodes, Sechlers, Widneys, Woodcoxes, Williams and Whites.

NEWVILLE-----The Barletts, Dodges, Delongs, Ellises, Lewises, Lawrences, Murphys, Rogers, Platters, Strongs, Steeles, Thomases, and Waldons.

STAFFORD-----The Barbers, Coats, Christoffels, De Forrests, Deihls, Headleys, McDaneils, Roses, Strohl, Shoubs, Schofields, Websters and Wanemakers.

WILMINGTON-----The Armstrongs, Babcocks, Coes, Crooks, Eakrights, Egnews, Fosdicks, Finneys, Helwigs, Hackleys, Handys, Imhofs, Jackmans, Kreutzes, Maxwells, Mullenixes, Meeses, Norrises, Nelsons, Packers, Rutledges, Roberts, Robes, Sawyers, Tremans, Tomlinsons, Tottens, Veeleys, Widneys, Woods, and Weeks.

UNION-----The Ashelman, Altenburgs, Abbotts, Bidlers, Baughmans, Browns, Cospers, Clay, Fishers, Fulks, Gingriches, Husselmans, Krums, Lutzes, Latsons, McEndefers, Misers, Summers, Strohs, Weavers, Weeks, Walworths, Whetsels, Parks, and Ingmans.

RICHLAND-----The Bangs, Cowleys, Clays, Calkins, Daileys, Dewitts, Feaglers, Greens, Hardys, Moodys, McMillens, Pennells, Rogers, Shulls, Showers, Treshes and Weiricks.

FAIRFIELD-----The Chaffees, McNabbs, Powells, Storys, Gushwas, and Wells.

SMITHFIELD-----The Baxters, Boyers, Blakers, Corwins, Danks, Daniels, Hemstreets, Holmes, Krums, Kelleys, McCoshes, Smiths, and Walkers.

FRANKLIN-----The Aldriches, Balls, Bowmans, Bucks, Beards, Crains, Dirrims, Ducks, Firestones, Houltons, Holmes, Hammonds, Jones, Jackmans, Jeffords, Keeps, Lews, Manns, McQueens, McCurdys, McAllisters, Myers, Nidigs, Nelsons, Olds, Porters, Packers, Rudes, Stambaughs, Shulls, Snooks, Thurstons, Watermans, and Wilsons.

TROY-----The Burdicks, Cathers, Casebeers, Colls, Emersons, Eddys, Helwigs, Jennings, Kniselys, Larneds, McClures, McClellans, McDaniels, Stearns, Willards, Wayleichts, and Zimmermans.

Those still living I do not mention. They, or at least a great many of them, are here to-day to speak for themselves. The men I have named were actively identified with the material interests of our county; their houses were ever the center of a liberal hospitality, and many brought to bear upon the difficulties and privations of pioneer life more than ordinary good judgement and natural ability. Many of them were thoroughly well educated, and had the energy and perseverance so highly necessary in a pioneer. Many led lives of devout Christianity, and the Sunday schools and churches they established are all over our county as lasting monuments to their memories and the foundations of our moral and social society to-day.

The men whom I have named, who came here prior to January, came before the period of railroads, before canals were dug, and many of them before the roads were cut and bridges built. Just think of it, that thirty-five years ago the residents of our county had never seen a railroad car, and we have over a hundred miles of railroad tracks in the county to-day, and 200 trains daily through it. There was not then in the county a steam engine; there was not one cook-stove in a dozen families. What kind of a dinner do you suppose the cooks of to-day would get up without a cook-stove? They had never even heard of kerosene oil for illuminating purposes. Matches--do you recollect the name, Lucifer matches, were hard to obtain, and only a few could afford the luxury. Why, the old-fashioned grain cradle, now out of use, was then just introduced. We had no such reapers and mowers and machinery for threshing and agricultural purposes that is now stacked on almost every forty-acre farm in the county. I recollect very distinctly the first threshing machine. It indeed was a beauty. It did not even separate the grain from the chaff and straw. It was brought into the county by John Zimmerman, who then resided on the Houk farm, in Jackson Township. He was the father of Mr. Elias Zimmerman, of this place. In fact, it would now be a novelty, and, as it did then, would now draw crowds when set to work; and, to use a homely expression, it was the "biggest thing out". Instead of being several weeks in flailing,



tramping and winnowing out a hundred bushels of wheat, the farmer, with that threshing machine, could thresh out that quantity in a day, and then take time to run it through the fanning mill. And when he had the wheat ready for market, then, he would have to take about three days to carry a load of twenty-five or thirty bushels to Fort Wayne and sell it for 50 or 60 cents a bushel. This, of course, was after they had been here ten or twelve years. My friends, just think that to-day there is not a farmer in this county but who can market from his farm a load of forty bushels in an hour and a half's time in some railroad elevator. Corn had a value then proportioned to wheat, the same as now. Pork then ranged at \$1.50 to \$2.00 per hundred pounds.

Let us look at our county as it was in 1845 from another view: Total amount of taxes assessed for all purposes that year \$8,339--Tax duplicate in 1880, \$118,000--Total value of all taxables in 1845--\$589,000--Total value of all taxables in 1880, \$6,600,000--County taxes levied in 1845, \$1,331--County taxes in 1880, nearly \$40,000--No. of polls in 1845, 731--No. of polls in 1880, 5,200.

Concord township at that time was the most wealthy and populous in the county. It had a taxables, \$67,000--This (Union) then had, \$55,000. Concord had the most polls--102; Wilmington and Franklin next, each having 87; Union had 79, Butler 78, Jackson 77.

In about two months it will be thirty-seven years since I was brought to this county by my parents, settling in Spencerville, then the most wealthy and populous part of the county. Having a grist and saw mill, post office, stores, ashery and other isignia of a new town in the new county, Spencerville commanded the trade of a large territory. At those times we knew all the people who made their appearance in town, and if we did not know their names we soon found out by asking. Let us look at the citizens of Spencerville to-day. I have carefully thought of and looked for all I then knew so well, and to-day there are but two persons alive and residing in that town who lived there in 1844, and they are Squire Barney and Dr. Emanuel. Their wives, and noble women they were, have long since been gathered to their rest.

Now let us go among the farmers of Concord Township and see if we can find some old, familiar faces who were on the same farms thirty-seven years ago. Of those who then owned and still reside on the same farms, I am able to find only eight men---Robert Culbertson, Sol. Woodcox, Henry Robinson, Jonathan Boyle, Samuel Wasson, David Shull, John Shutt and William Henderson. But there are some who still reside on the farm as then, having succeeded their parents. Some of these are John Widney, Erastus White, Jackson Moody, Daniel and David Butler, Mort Milliman, Milas Rhodes and mother, and Emillus Case and mother, and R.G. Coburn.

Now, my friends, let me change the scene. Let the curtain exhibit this village of Auburn in December, 1856, now nearly twenty-five years ago, when I located here. Upon inquiry you will find only ten families occupying the same homes as then, viz: Dr. Ford, Mrs. Leasure, Mrs. Mott, George Brandt, G.W. Stahl, Major Sprott, James Brinkerhoff,

Mrs. J. Jones, and Mrs. Houghton, upon whose grounds we are now assembled----ten in all. Besides those named, the following families still reside in town, as in December, 1856: S.W. Ralston, S.B. Ward, J.W. Case, Lewis Bowers, James and Hiram Griswold, Mrs. Puffenberger, Mrs. Stephen Latson, George Wagoner, Mrs. C.S. Hare and Mrs. W.A. Sawrey, eleven; in all, twenty-one families. But of these twenty-one families, death has entered and carried away a husband or a wife in all but eight.

Let us go out on the streets and ramble among the business men and houses, about the mills, shops and in the professional ranks; examine the faces of these active men and see if any are here to-day still engaged in the same business as twenty-five years ago. I look carefully and find but three. Not counting Dr. Ford, who has retired from active practice, I find James W. Case, then and now a mechanic. I see also G.W. Stahl still cutting out pants and cooking the same old goose he did of yore, laughing just as joyously, but not so vigorously. The third, myself, and humble follower of Blackstone and Kent. Those of my profession, where are they? Judge Mott, good old soul, who never by word or action intended a wrong, and his son Sheridan, bright, brilliant and promising, father and son lie side by side and fill honored graves at their old homestead. T.R. Dickinson, though eccentric, yet abounding in enterprise and integrity, as good a neighbor and citizen as ever lived, is buried in Waterloo. His son Timothy, of many rare qualities, is now only a breathing corpse, dying a slow death of softening of the brain, induced by over mental and physical labor. A.S. Blake is in Denver, Col. S.J. Stoughton and S.W. Dickinson, I believe, are dead. James Brinkerhoff is and has been an invalid for years, and out of practice. An last of all, Judge Morris, a name honored and spoken of with reverence by all old settlers, resides at Fort Wayne, and is now the peer if not the superior in legal lore, in varied and enlarged intellectual attainments, and in unsullied integrity, of any of his distinguished associates upon our supreme bench. Indeed

"I feel like one who threads alone  
Some banquet hall deserted,  
Whose lights are fled, whose garland dead,  
And all but me departed."

Twenty-five years ago we thought we had a 'staving' nice town here. There was not a steam or flouring mill in it; not a wheel turned by steam-power; not a baker, meat shop, family grocery store, nor even a millinery or barber shop here. Of the young men of our town on whom devolved the responsibility of taking care of the social affairs, I now recall Philip Fluke, then tanning leather, making money and gadding all over the country; Judge McClellan was shoving a pen in the auditor's office. Our present good-looking sheriff, 'Gust Leas, Ame Park, now of Kendallville, and Lewis Ochs, a brother of Simon and Isaac Ochs, were all clerks in dry-goods stores. The two Weaver boys, Eli and Enos, were running drug stores, and sometimes horses, but always after the girls.



Steve Ford, Whead. Griswold and Tom Gross, who were born tired, were not permanently engaged at anything, but were ready to snap up any good offer that presented itself. Ex-Auditor Hague and Thad. Meese were taking first lessons in making boots and shoes, under the lynx eyes of Isaac Brandt. John Somers was then, as now, temporarily absent in the Western mountains, engaged in the pleasant pastime of killing Indians and picking up nuggets of gold. At the same time, we claimed as belonging to our crowd two others (still veterans in the cause), Uncles Jacob Somers and Moses Brandon, then just as desirable 'catches' as they are to-day. I do believe they are engaged in the fatal game of wearing each other out by seeing which can outlive the other in the state of 'single blessedness.'

We then had a younger class coming on, then just in their teens, who were neither man nor beast--the liveliest set of miscreants you ever knew--If you would catch out at night, Dick and Guy Plumb, Jack and Coop. Ralston, Sam and Clark Ford, the Mott boys, Joe Loveland, Bill Tinney, Dry Houghton, Harry Ward, Sam Puff and a few others I could mention, you would next morning find there had been done more gilt-edged, clear-out, mischievous devilment, than could have been accomplished in a week by a regiment of old settlers, all of who to-day are good business men and citizens, and alive, except poor Clark Ford and Sheridan Mott, who sacrificed their young lives upon their country's alter.

Notwithstanding the privations and exposures of these early times, which you, my aged friends, have passed through and encountered, when I look around me and behold your ruddy and gladsome faces, I must say as you will undoubtedly tell me, these cares of life, these many years, and nature itself has dealt lightly and gently with you. When we think back (even those of my age and those still younger, and some so many years your juniors) and revive and recount the vicissitudes of life, the many trials, vexations and disappointments, with the foolish and unwise exposures which we might or could have been avoided, and the almost, if not entirely criminal indulges of our passions and appetites, we are surprised that we are still alive and are not older in appearance, or in a worse physical condition than we are. The compensating and recuperating powers of nature are indeed wonderful. All seems to work for the best. How terrible life would be were there none of those compensating and curing powers to come to us? We have sickness and pain, mutilated limbs, sore afflictions of body and mind, we stand by the dying bed of our children, our sons, daughters, companions, and feel as though it is impossible to give them up, as I know some of you have felt. Yet, although a deep scar may be left to mark the injury done, it does not kill, and in the mutations of life, the poigniancy of grief is assuaged, and the occurrence scarcely thought of. The dark and dreary clouds of life will in time dissolve, and the bright sun with its warm rays, the pleasant hours, the kind friends and the beauties of this life will appear and if we will only permit nature to have its way, the beautiful side

will appear; but if we drown down nature in its efforts to cure these wounds, if we but ponder and dream only of the dark side, permit that side to be uppermost in our thoughts, we are looking through the glass darkly. We become melancholy, sour and morose. Although we may have trouble and pain and we must expect them there is a great abundance of joy, happiness and pleasure in the world. It is a pleasant world to live in. If we could only make up our minds to be satisfied, and be contented with our lot.

Even in early days, when the pioneers were undergoing the privations I have spoken of, they had a very large amount of the real pleasures of life; and when an opportunity afforded, it was enjoyed with a relish equally as well as now. It certainly was true enjoyment to help a neighbor raise a house or a barn, do his logging, have quilting and sewing bees, dance on the puncheons in the cabins, take your girl up behind you on horseback and carry her through the woods six, eight or ten miles to some gathering; and she would have to hold on awfully tight or she would be brushed off the horse by the limbs or trunks of the trees. Think of the making of sugar, hunting bee trees, gathering cranberries, wild plums, cherries, grapes, crab-apples, all kinds of nuts and ginseng. Think of the excellent hunting and fishing there was here then; all kinds and in large quantities were the fish, wild fowls and wild animals.

They had other pleasures; and were as keen then to devise and play off some joke, prank or sport at each other's expense as their sons and daughters are of to-day. For the purpose of showing by its sequel the good heart of one of its actors, of the many I have heard I will mention only one. I take the now oldest settler in the county; and because he is such I take the liberty of using his name, he feeling well assured that I would not set down aught in the malice. It seems that long years ago, at least forty, Samuel Wasson unsuspectingly entered into a contract with that ever-practical joker, shrewd lawyer and afterward honored judge, R.E. Dawson, whereby Wasson agreed to let Dawson strike Wasson three strokes with a raw-hide---then Wasson was to strike Dawson five strokes with the same instrument, Wasson agreeing before-hand that he would not touch Dawson until he had given him all his three strokes. Dawson was a strong and powerful man, and probably struck harder than he intended; but after striking Wasson only twice he hurriedly put away the raw-hide and concluded to postpone indefinitely the giving to Wasson of the last stroke. He felt safe because he had Wasson's word, which then, as now, was as good as a bond, that Wasson would not strike. Wasson demanded the other lick and to have the contract fulfilled at once. Dawson argued that by the contract he could take all the time he wanted to finish up his work. Wasson begged and demanded, and Dawson was equally stubborn and determined in his way. The truth was that thereafter on that day it was not very quiet on the St. Joesph. Dawson always thereafter kept postponing the execution of his contract, and Wasson ever waiting, watching and wishing to have Dawson strike him. They lived within a mile of each other for twenty years but



were not as friendly as they ought to have been and be neighbors.

Twenty-two years ago the 15th of last month, a man at Spencerville, with his weeping wife and three little boys by his side, and other mourning friends around, lay dying. Many of his neighbors were there to take their last look and render assistance. A few moments after midnight, after a few gasps, and Reuben J. Dawson was dead. Wasson was not present, but Dawson had not been dead five minutes before the tall, bent form and shaggy beard of Samuel Wasson came into that house of mourning from the darkness outside, where he had been silently and alone awaiting the crisis. As tenderly as a sister would, he gently carried the little boys and weeping widow to their rooms, and with his own hands shaved, dressed and fitted for sepulture the body of that neighbor. The next day, solitary and alone, with his shovel and mattock, Wasson wended his way to the village grave-yard, and, with his own hands and strength, dug and prepared the grave of one whom he had thought had so grievously wronged him. And there in that grave, that day, Samuel Wasson buried all the ill will, hatred or malice he ever had against Dawson. My friend, such is only one of many of the great big, noble hearts of the Old Settlers. A great big, warm heart of that kind is worth more, to a man than all the land now owned by Lockwood. And when such men or women die, there are more bitter tears shed and sadder hearts around their graves than there was around the bier of that railroad magnate and millionaire, Thomas S. Scott, a few days ago.

A few more words, my friends, and I close, I have spoken more fully of Concord-tp. and Auburn, than of other localities of the county. It was only because that in them I have lived nearly my whole life. Other parts of the county are just as beautiful and pleasant to you as Concord and Auburn are to me. They are all dear, sacred and hallowed spots. All over this county, in every school district you will find hearts who worship and idolize each spot. Here it was that long years ago, with your companions, you sought to make a home, here your children were born and with parents, children and companions, here lay buried, your dead. Let us all hallow and keep green in our hearts these sacred spots. We some times shudder when we think we too must be laid beneath the clods of the valley, but yet it is our uppermost desire and wish that when we shall have paid the last and final duet of nature, our dust shall be permitted to mingle with that of our kindred dead. In the village church-yard near Spencerville, lies all that is mortal of my parents. Here in our cemetery, almost within the sound of thy voice, also lies moldering in dust the little forms of three of my children. To-day let us again reconsecrate these spots, let us revive the sacred memories of other days, and of former acquaintances, and when we return to our homes to-night let us realize that it is the most sacred spot on earth.

My friends, excuse me a moment by bothering you with a little more poetry. It is true that persons as old as you and I, who have received the hard blows and ugly strokes through life, have about all the music and poetry there ever

was in us pretty well knocked out. But when the poetry strikes the right chord it answers the same purpose now just as well as at any time.

My address had been somewhat sombre and solemn; I cannot leave you in that frame of mind. Excuse me a moment while I bother you with a little more poetry. It is not old, nor Scottish, nor Irish, as that which I have read. It is quite modern, it is American, too; and to still make it better and refine it down, it is American of African descent. It is an address to the members of the Lime Kiln Club, and published in the Detroit FREE PRESS. Here it is:"

#### THE LIME KILN GLEE CLUB CHORUS.

Yes, we am passin' down de lane,  
An' haltin' by de way,  
Jist long 'nuff to rest our limbs,  
An' fur de chil'en pray;  
Las' Sunday preacher Gordon said;  
"De march will soon be o'er,  
An' all de ole folks safely cross  
Upon dat shinin' shore.

Chorus-----But old folks am jolly folks,  
An' while we wait to go,  
Let's gin de fiddle lots or work,  
An' rush de ole banjo.

Dar Uncle Daniel, he am lame,  
An' Peter White am bald,  
An' Diana Rock an' ole Aunt Chlo'  
Am waitin' to be called;  
An' Trustee Pullback says to me'  
"De summons soon mus' come,  
For you an' me an' us ole folks  
to tote our baggage home.

Chorus-----Dar's Pickles Smith an' Daddy Toots  
A-nearin' of dar end,  
An' Deacon Spooner an' his wife  
Am crutchin' round de bedd;  
Aye! us old folks am hangin' on,  
An' kinder waitin' round,  
To let de chil'en grow a bit  
Fo' we go under ground.

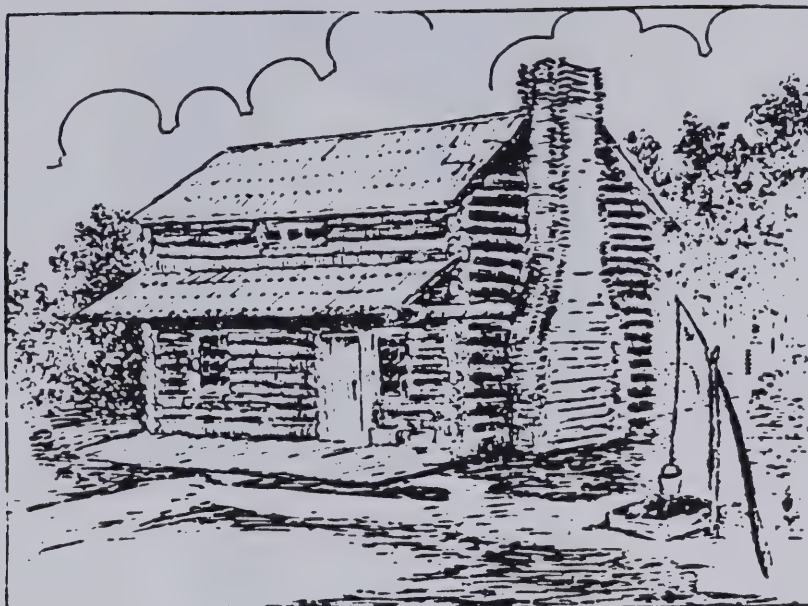
Chorus-----But old folks am jolly folks,  
An' while we wait to go,  
Let's gin de fiddle lots o' work  
An' rush de old banjo,"



And now my friends, in bidding you goodbye, I hope and trust that in kind Providence we all, without the loss of one, may be permitted to meet again next year, and be favored to meet at many re-unions; and that, when we have crossed the River of Death, our course through life may meet the approval of our neighbors, and receive recognition of Him who doeth all things well. Adieu.

AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1881-----Page 1 - Cols. 1 to 6  
continued on Page 8 - Cols. 1 & 2

\*\*\*\*\*



FIRST HOUSE BUILT IN DE KALB COUNTY  
John Houlton's House, in Franklin Township. Built September  
4, 1833.



JOHN AND NANCY (LEVIS) HOULTON





**SHERMAN DICKENSON**



**CHARLES A. O. MC CLELLAN:** In 1856 he came to Indiana, settling in Auburn, where he was employed as deputy in the County Auditor's office, serving in that position five years. In 1879 he accepted the appointment of Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Indiana.



**HON. ROBERT BENSON MOTT** First Lawyer who settled in Auburn.





MARY (WINTERBOTTOM) MOTT



**LIEUT. SHERIDAN E. MOTT:** Enlisted in company A, Eighty-eight Regiment, Indiana Volunteers. Always ready to assist a comrade, he earned the title of "The double knapsack man," because he so often relieved others of some part of their burden.



## Old Settlers' Committee.

The committee of arrangements, consisting of Dr. Ford, E.D. Hartman, T.D. Gross, J.W. Baxter, O.C. Clark, J.A. Barnes, C.P. Houser, L.J. Miller and J. E. Rose are requested to meet at the secretary's office at 2 o'clock p. m. Saturday May 27. A prompt and full attendance is desired. By order of the chairman. W.H. Dills Sec'y.

AUBURN COURIER-----25 May 1882-----Page 5 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*

### OLD SETTLERS' REUNION.

An Address Delivered By James E. Rose,  
at Auburn, June 15, 1882

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen--Reunions have become of frequent occurrence. Those who have been associated together in any particular relationship, especially if the object of the association has been for a philanthropic purpose, after a long separation, or after the objects of the association have been realized, greatly enjoy meeting together and exchanging congratulations over the accomplishment of their common purpose or over each others' sorrows and sympathizing with each other in whatever there has been of life, through which they have been called to pass that has been unpleasant and hard to bear. Our joys are increased by recounting them to our friends, and the burdens of life are diminished, when the sympathy of old time friends is extended toward us in our afflictions. The spirit's burden that weights down old age, becomes as a feather when we realize the presence and encouragement of the friends of our early lives. These reunions afford us an opportunity for the time being of living over again the long past, and drawing from it lessons which enable us the better to enjoy the present. The men, who in the hour of their country's peril, bared their breasts to the leaden hail of rebel bullets to save their country's flag and their country's honor, hold their annual reunions, and live over again all the pleasurable excitement of the march, the bivouac and the battle. The shrieking fife and the rolling drum, the rifle's sharp crack and the cannon's reverberating roar, as the mimic battle rages, recalls all the enjoyable qualities of the real battle, relieved of its attendant dangers and suffering. And, for the time being, the halting, limping step that has characterized the unfortunate patriot for a score of years is forgotten by himself, and unnoticed by others, as he marches side by side with the comrades, by whose side he fought real battles years ago.

The college students, who for four years, during the incubation of their manhood, racked their overtaxed minds over difficult mathematical problems until reason almost tottered on her throne, or coned Greek roots, prefixed and suffixed until in their wearied frenzy they would gladly

attend the obsequius of language that has been dead for centuries, hold their reunions, at which they recount the experiences of college, and live over again their youth. And the most dignified men of the age at their alumni gatherings in their recitals of college life experiences, prove the truthfulness of the old adage that "boys are boys the world around". For a time the elasticity of youth returns and reanimates the gremling frame of the venerable sage, and lends to life a buoyancy and pleasure that could not flow from any other source. The pilgrims, while living, and their descendants after their death, from the time of their landing on Plymouth Rock to the present time have had their annual reunions on the anniversary in this country, and at there reunions they gather the relics of two centuries ago in honor of the names of their noble ancestry, whose love of freedom, and independence, and devotion to principle, did so much to make New England, in morality and industry what it is to-day. These reunions are induced by the friendly feeling which grows up among those engaged in a common work where hardships are undergone, and sacrifices made to accomplish a common purpose,

"When our lives were linked together, and our  
young hearts bloomed out

"Like violet bells upon the self same stem,

"Pouring the dewy odors of life's spring

"Into each others bosoms.

In imitation of this custom, the pioneers of the county, those by whose personal efforts and personal sacrifices, the vast and apparently impenetrable wilderness has been subdued and, as if by magic, the cultivated farm with its palatial home, and wide stretching fields, its lowing herds and waving grain, the school house, the church, the village and the busy city have appeared, meet in annual reunions, in their several localities to revere the memories of the long past, and to greet each again on this side of the mysterious river that forms the boundary line between time and eternity. Yes we meet to take each other by the hand as in the "long ago" when in our home spun garb we met at the log cabin raising, or the meeting in the log school house, and renew our pioneer associations, and rekindle the fires of friendship, and paternal feeling that burned so brightly nearly half a century, ago. The pioneer's fire was emblematical of his friendship, although covered for a time, the covering was not to extinguish, but to preserve, and it required but a breath to start it into a flame; and it requires but a moment for memory to go back too the pioneer days of this country, and from its store house of sacred relics bring forth for our consideration and enjoyment pictures of things that then existed, and by comparing them with what exists to day determine what advancements we have made in the time that has intervened. Professor Swing in the preface to his lectures, entitled, "Motive of Life" expresses the following beautiful thoughts. "Visiting a large forest in June, you cannot bear



home with you all its great old trees; you may carry back only a few boughs from elm and oak." So with us, today. I cannot bring back, from memory's store house all the noble deeds of the pioneer. I cannot recount all that would be interesting to hear, of the experiences and incidents of pioneer life in the time allotted to me; but I hope to be able to present to your consideration a few reminders of the great and noble achievements of the pioneers, and some of the peculiarities of their mode of life, which may instruct the young and interest the old. And, looking back over the history of this county from its first settlement, for I have witnessed the facts from which most of that history has been made; and contemplating the vast field of labor and sacrifices and incidents that might be made subservient to my purpose on this occasion, it is difficult for me to determine with what branch of the work of the pioneers to commence this examination of what they have accomplished. As the friendly greetings of to day so vividly remind me of those at the religious meetings held by the pioneers in the log school house, I will ask you to go with me to one of them and consider its surroundings. We had no church edifices then, with cushioned pews and carpeted aisles, with deep toned organ and voice trained choir. No white gloved usher to conduct you to a seat, with a soft and easy grace, all assumed, that would have made a fairy blush. No gilded carriage, no liveried coachman to convey you to the palatial church at the call of the deep toned bell, pealing out its reverberating notes of welcome in the mellow air of the Sabbath morning. Nor vestibule with its French mirror, at whose shrine every fashionable lady must do homage before entering the place dedicated to the worship of God. No cushioned and tassellated pulpit and upholstered chairs.

No, we had none of these luxuries connected with in worship of God in those pioneer days. The log school house answered the tripple purpose of schoolhouse, church, and town hall. The congregation consisted of the neighborhood for miles around. The minister "rode the circuit" comprised a territory embracing several counties, and equal in area to the whole state of Rhode Island. These trips were made on horseback, and the circuit rider carried with him a huge pair of saddle-bags, in which was stowed away his bible and hymn-book, a clean shirt and few copies of Baxter's saints rest, for sale. He was made to feel himself at home wherever he stopped by the homely and heart-felt hospitality with which he was entertained by the pioneers in their log-cabin homes. The coming of the preacher, was a welcome event in the household, as he brought the news from other neighborhoods, which he visited on his circuit. It would amuse, and probably, in some things, instruct, the young man and young woman of the present day to witness a "quarterly meeting" such as we had among the pioneers. Now, no young man can think of entering society until he becomes the possessor of a covered carriage, nickle-plated harness and a fine horse, and until he is supplied with this outfit he receives but little consideration from the average young lady; but in those pioneer days the young man on whom such paternal kindness was

bestowed as to be favored with the use of the family horse to attend quarterly meeting with, was a desirable catch for the most ambitious young lady of his acquaintance. Equipped with horse, saddle and bridle and coverlet or quilt thrown over the saddle and extending back to the horse's hips, he went to the house of the most popular young lady in the neighborhood, with as much pride as the kid-gloved young man of to-day drives his 2:40 horse and gilded carriage to the palatial home of his lady friend; and with his girl mounted behind him, her arms around his waist to prevent falling off, the journey was commenced. As these meetings were attended by people who came several miles, it was not an unusual sight to see a procession of eighteen or twenty couples, thus mounted two on one horse, wending their way to the place of worship. A horse that would not carry double could not be sold to a pioneer in those days at any price, if the young men of the family were consulted in regard to the purchase.

There are before me to-day, men now well down the sunny side of life whom I have seen on their way to meeting on horseback with their girls behind them. Farm wagons drawn by oxen was the usual mode of conveyance to meetings and other places to which the pioneers went if the distance was great but to walk three or four miles to meeting or to form an acquaintance of an emigrant recently arrived, was not regarded as much of a task by the pioneer's wife and daughter.

The first school house built in the county, I think was in the Handy settlement, three miles south of the place where the town of Butler now is. It would be a curiosity now. Permit me to describe it to-day as it stood more than forty years ago. It was built of round logs, that is unhewn logs, and sixteen feet wide and twenty-four long, with a puncheon floor, and a sled-runner chimney; a fire place extending across one end of the building and a door near the corner in the side. The chimney was made of mud and sticks and was so large at the top that much of the light that illuminated the literary path of the students during the weeks; or the spiritual path of the church goer on Sunday, came down the chimney through the smoke. At the end of the room opposite the fire place, was the window which consisted of a row of "seven by nine" glass, occupying the place of a log that had been left out when the house was raised. The window was nine inches high and sixteen feet long, and when a snow ball passing through the air without the aid of human agency, for no boy ever threw a snow ball that hit a window, and a pane of glass was broken its place was supplied by a piece of oiled paper. These were usually supplanted with glass at the commencement of a term; the number of accidents of that mysterious nature that transpired during the term could be determined by the number of greased papers in the window and were not exceedingly translucent during cold cloudy days, when the door must be kept shut, the whole school literally groped in darkness. The writing desk was a hewn puncheon placed against the wall, at an angle of forty-five degrees, in front of the window, and seat a seat at the writing desk was a post of honor enjoyed only by the large scholars, and



those who occupied it were envied as bitterly by the balance of the school as the senior class in college is by the freshman. The cracks between the logs were chinked with pieces of wood and daubed with mud outside and in. The ceiling was made of round poles extending from one side of the room to the other, the ends resting in cracks made large for that purpose in each side. Over the poles mud was spread in copious profusion, which, when dried, formed a ceiling that bid defiance alike to piercing wind of winter, and scorching heat of the summer sun. The roof was made of clapboards, held to their place by logs laid on top of them, called weight-poles. The seats were made of sasafras piles about six inches in diameter, split in two, the heart side up, and wooden pins or legs in the bottom or oval sides. These were made to suit the comfort of full-grown men, and hence, were so high from the floor, that the aid of the teacher was necessary to place the small scholars on the seat, and when there no little care was required on their part to avoid falling off. The text books used were the Western spelling book, the new testament and for advanced scholars the Old English Reader. The scholars who ciphered used such arithmetics as they could procure, but Dabold's predominated; and when an industrious and studious scholar had reached the "Rule of Three" (now called Proportion) the teacher to avoid an exposition of his ignorance of the mysteries beyond, prudently required a review and the mathematical ardor of the ambitious youth was cooled by being turned back to Notation and compelled to memorize the fine print and foot notes. As there was not a uniformity of books there were no classes, except spelling and reading classes, and each student studied arithmetic "on his own hook". The advent of such a man as my friend Houser or Keeran, into the neighborhood at that time, with their sample desks and ink wells, slate blackboards and crayon pencils, terresterial and celestial globes, Spencerian copy books and a trunk full of eclectic speller, readers, mental and practical arithmetics, grammars, geographies, histories, steel pens, pointers would have attracted more attention and created more excitement among the pioneers. Than did the Rev. Lewis Hickman, lecturing on Millerism, with his illustrated map, as large as a bed blanket, on which were pictures of the great Dragon that John, the Revelator saw, with its seven crowned heads and ten horns; with its flowing mouth and red-hot fangs through which blue, sickening and sulphureous flames seethingly issued; with its serpentine caudal appendage drawing in its train one-third of the stars of heaven. There too, was the fair woman standing on the moon, clothed with the sun and crowned with stars. There, too, was Michael and his angels, chafing for a fight with his dragonship as soon as orders could be obtained from headquarters to open out on the enemy. And last but not least of the hideous things on that chart, was the devil with his cloven foot. There are many here to-day who heard those lectures in the log-cabin school houses, and yet remember that horrid chart, and the blood-curdling harangue of the Reverend gentleman as he tried to terrify men, women and

children into repentance, on the same principle that the bee-keeper scares an out-going swarm of bees into a new hive, by the hideous noise produced by the united efforts of his entire family on tin pans, cow-bells and dinner horns. One could almost hear the approaching echoes of Gabriel's trumpet while looking at that chart and listening to the speaker's terrifying portraiture of the horrors of the "last day". None of the modern improvements and discoveries, to aid in the cause of a practical education were then known in this county. No graded reading books or spellers, no blackboards, steel pens or mathematical frames, no globes or varnished pointers. Then we had pointers, fresh hickories cut from the adjacent thicket, with the jackknife of the teacher. But they were not used as the ornamented pointers now are, to demonstrate mathematical problems on the blackboard, and trace out the course of rivers and mountains, and the most practical and direct route across the continent, or around the globe, upon an outline map suspended on the wall, but they were applied to the backs of the wayward youth to demonstrate the propriety of searching for the most direct route to obedience. And those pointers were effective, too. Two of the qualifications for teaching that were indispensable then are now entirely obsolete--the applicant for the position of school teacher must then be able to make a goose quill pen, and possess the muscular power to wield a hickory whip. But the educational facilities of this country have changed since then. The old log-cabin school-house has disappeared, and now beautiful structures of frame or brick dot our county thickly over. The sassafras benches have given place to easy and convenient seats and desks. Apparatus by which the intelligent teacher may illustrate the sciences, adorn the school room in abundance. The crack of the hickory over the shoulders of the disobedient pupil is now but seldom heard and Professor Barnes does not now inquire of applicants for license to teach, whether they can whittle a goosequill pen or not.

It is a fact however that some of the most useful and prominent of the citizens of our county, to day, received their education in the old log cabin-school-house, with the meager facilities that I have enumerated. It should be remembered, however, that men, steady, reliable men cannot be made from books alone, you might be able to put a dazzling polish on a paper boot, but a moment's walk in the dewey grass would leave you barefooted. A little of the rough-and-tumble of life such as the pioneer experienced is requisite to develop the courage, the moral back bone, the self reliance and industry, the patience and perseverance necessary to usefulness in life. The meetings in the old log-cabin school house were conducted with a zeal and pathos that we do not witness now in the fashionable church. The average congregation then, did not comprise more than twenty five or thirty persons, on ordinary occasions, but their earnestness and zeal would exceed the aggregate zeal of an ordinary congregation of three hundred persons of the present day. There is many a gray-haired and sun-browned pioneer before me today, who near a half century ago has assisted in



the singing of "Old Hundred" "Lenox Mear" or the long meter doxology in those old time meeting until the very atmosphere around them was filled such a spirit of goodness, that every one, who inhaled it, was made to feel, that it was good for him to be there.

There was more real solid, soul stirring hallelujahs in one of those log-cabin-protracted meetings, on a cold winter night, under the management of some of the pioneer preachers, than Moody and Sankey ever produced, when at the acme of their fame as revivalists. The early preacher have nearly all gone, to their reward. Gabriel Williams, Lewis Hicklin, Henry Kunler, Ladd Thomas, Cyrus Alton, and James Hadsell, are numbered with those who have passed through the chilly waters of the mysterious river: Jonathan Thomas, Elder Ward, Jno. McCurdy, and Jas. Cather, who were among the pioneer preachers, are yet with us, and continue their life work in trying to better the condition of those around them by both precept an example.

The pioneer merchants, store keeps we then called them, were N.L. Thomas, of Newville, whom we familiarly called 'Uncle Ladd' and Thomas J. Freeman, of Auburn, both men of some consequence in their time, have long since gone to that country from which no traveler returns. But, during their time, they served their day and generation in a laudable manner. Great changes in mercantile business have occurred since then, as well as in the educational and religious institutions of the country. Now we find in our midst double front brick stores, carrying a stock of goods worth twenty-five thousand dollars, embracing every article of merchandise that the most fastidious could desire, supplied from the jobbing houses of the great cities that have grown up within a few hours travel from our homes, transported on railroad running in every direction through our county, over which trains of cars are passing almost every hour. These towns, with their mammoth stores, these railroads with their thundering locomotives and apparently living trains of cars, these great cities with numerous wholesale houses, where millions of dollars worth of goods are sold each year, have all been built since the pioneers of this county began the work of subduing the wilderness. These beautiful stores with their large stocks of costly goods were not even dreamed of by the pioneers. The pioneer store in the eastern part of this county, the one kept by Ladd Thomas, occupied a room about fifteen feet square and \$200.00 would have purchased every article he had to sell. He made his regular trips to Fort Wayne at stated periods, riding an old black horse familiarly known as "Old Jack" by all the settlers, and carrying with him his purchases of produce, consisting of deer and coon skins, bees-wax and ginseng roots. These he exchanged for such articles as he kept for sale, and frightened Old Jack with his purchases on his return trip. I said Old Jack was familiarly known to the settler. Uncle Ladd, as he was called, was a methodist preacher, and in addition to his business as a merchant and his services in the pulpit, he preached funerals and solemnized the marriages for all the settlers in the east part of the county, and when he went

from home to attend to those duties Old Jack was his only mode of conveyance. The old horse seemed to have the ability to determine the difference between a funeral and a wedding, and it is not strange that he had, when we consider the fact that when Uncle Ladd attended a funeral he went alone, but when called to officiate at a wedding the whole family went with him, and Old Jack's burden, like Job's, was grievous to be borne, and like one of olden times, he might have exclaimed: "It is better to go to the house of mourning than to a house of feasting." I have often seen Old Jack, on Sunday mornings, passing my father's cabin home, on his way to a wedding with the whole family, consisting of Uncle Ladd, his wife and two sons, David, who died at early manhood, and Newton, now a prominent lawyer in a western city, all perched upon his back. Pardon this digression, but as the old horse will be remembered by so many persons, he deserves a passing notice. The store keepers in the pioneer days were required to procure a license from the county commissioners before commencing business, and in their applications for the license they were required to enumerate the articles they proposed to sell and state the amount of capital invested in the business. And in compliance with the law, Thomas J. Freeman, the first merchant of Auburn, on March 7th, 1883, applied for a license to sell foreign merchandise and domestic groceries, with a capital of \$175.00, and was required to pay for that privilege the sum of \$5.00, and his traffic in time pieces was restricted to one dozen for the year. That number of sales would hardly be a paying business for our friend Abright. The opinion of the people have changed greatly since then, for at that time Mr. Freeman was permitted to sell intoxicating liqueur without a license, but was not allowed to sell tea, coffee and sugar without a permit. Now the dealer may sell the latter without a license but must pay for the privilege of engaging in the liquor traffic. In the pioneer days there were no boot and shoe stores as now, and the "Boot-Up-Side Down" establishment of our townsman would have been a curiosity. Then the shoemaker, following the example of the itinerant preacher, went from house to house with his kit of tools and made the shoes for the several families comprising his list of patrons. The ladies had not then acquired the habit of crowding a number four foot into a number three French Kid shoe, but the shoes were manufactured to fit the foot and not the eye, and were made of substantial material, impervious to wet and cold. And equipped with a pair of these shoes, the pioneer's wife could walk a mile through the snow without being placed under the doctor's care for weeks following. But these pioneer customs, together with the log-cabin homes, and log school houses, have passed away and now live only in the fond recollections of the few old settlers who survive. The wilderness we then loved for its native grandeur has disappeared, and in its stead the cultivated field with its waving grain, the beautiful homes, and pleasant little towns have sprung up. The winding wagon road, meandering around, the swamps and creeks through the woods, can no longer be traced by the "oldest inhabitant". The old Indian trail can



no longer be found, but the commodious highways permeating every part of the county furnish a comfortable route for every man to travel upon. The "mail carrier", with his horn and saddle bags, bringing us the news of important events, at the rate of three miles per hour has been supplanted by the elegantly equipped mail coach, carrying the news of the world, at the rate of sixty miles per hour. And not contented with even that rate of speed, science now supplies us with the telegraph; and later with the telephone, by which we may converse with our friends at a distance of what was in pioneer days a four days' journey. Yes, indeed, great changes have taken place since the pioneer days. Suppose some pioneer, like Rip VanWinkle, had gone to sleep in this county in 1838 or 1840, and had been awakened to-day by the shrill whistle of the railroad locomotive, by which you were drawn here this morning, what strange sights would be seen. He would be a ignorant of the things surrounding him as is the little child. The railroad with its long trains of cars; the telegraph with its mysteries; the telephone faithfully conveying a whisper a hundred miles; the audiphone reproducing a lecture or a sermon after the speaker has died and been forgotten, would be mysteries to him. Since then the cooking range and its appurtenances has taken place of the old trammel, and crane, and skillets, and Dutch ovens. The horseback riders, in their home spun garb, dismounted and transformed into elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen riding in gilded carriages with upholstered cushions and glittering polish, dazzling the eye as they move in the sunlight. Yes, all has changed since the pioneer days, and we, too, who yet survive, of the early settlers, have changed. I well remember these old men and women here to-day, now with white hairs and trembling and uncertain step, when in the vigor of early manhood and womanhood, with a courage scarcely excelled by the man who braves the cannon's mouth, they left the tender associations of their early lives, and come to this county, then a wilderness, cheerfully and uncomplaining, enduring its dangers and its privations for a grand and noble purpose. A few of the old pioneers yet remain with us. They are the true heroes of this country--more deserving of adulation--more worthy of laudatory honors than the heroes of the battle-field. To them we owe a debt of gratitude that we can never pay. As they go down, to the grave, one by one, we see the land marks of the civilization remains for us to enjoy, but the motive power that planted it, is fast receding from our midst. Each year, as we meet, we notice the ranks are being thinned. Here and there we see vacancies, where the year before sat a pioneer. To-day, we will no doubt for the last time, take the hand of some one of this noble band of heroes, and ere another annual reunion shall take place, it may be said of some of these good old people present to-day, "Their life work is done, and they have gone to their reward". My friends, let us remember that we owe a duty to these old pioneers; that to them, to their sacrifices, and patient and unremitting industry, we are indebted for all there is of the blessings of civilization that surrounds us. Let us spare no pains to make the

remainder of their paths through life pleasant and enjoyable. Let us imitate their industry and integrity, their virtue and frugality, laboring to make our lives as worthy of imitation by those who follow us when we are gone; and hoping that it may be said of us, truthfully, when our life work has been finished, as it can now be said of the pioneers, that the world has been made better by our having lived in it.

AUBURN COURIER-----22 June 1882-----Page 1 - Cols. 1 to 6

\*\*\*\*\*

### OLD SETTLERS' MEETING.

The fifth annual meeting of the Pioneer Association of DeKalb county met in the grove on Baker's land, at the north end of Auburn, on Thursday, June 15 1882. Present, all the officers and executive committee, and also a large number of old settlers and other citizens of DeKalb county, estimated at over three thousand persons. The meeting was called to by the president, Dr. J.H. Ford, at 10:30 a.m., and after music by the band and choir, the Rev. S.B. Ward, chaplain for the occasion, addressed the Throne of Grace. J.E. Rose, Esq., of Auburn, heretofore selected to address the meeting, entertained the audience for nearly an hour with an interesting, instructive, and most appropriate address which was highly appreciated and complimented by all present. After a motion instructing the executive committee to report the names of officers for the ensuing year, the meeting took a recess until 2 o'clock p.m. for refreshments. The recess was most enjoyable, a great portion of the crowd remaining in the grove, renewing old or forming new acquaintances and partaking of each other's hospitalities and well-filled baskets, while others repaired to the houses in town for similar enjoyments.

At 2 o'clock the reports of the several officers were read and adopted, and the executive committee reported the following named persons as officers for the coming year:

For president, Dr. J.H. Ford; vice-president, William Henderson; secretary, W.H. Dills; treasurer, Cyrus Bowman; biographer, D.Z. Hoffman.

#### Executive Committee:

Butler township, P. Noel; Jackson, William Carr; Concord, R. Culbertson; Newville, James Platter; Stafford, C.R. Wanemaker; Wilmington, south P.B. Nimmons; Wilmington, north, W.L. Blair; Auburn, J.R. Cosper; Waterloo, John Butt; Keyser, B.F. Moody; Richland, N. Griffith; Fairfield, G.W. Husselman; Smithfield, J.E. Thompson; Franklin, M. Waterman; Troy, W.R. Emerson, which report was accepted and adopted. Upon the request of several members, W.H. Dills, secretary, moved the adoption of the following amendments to the constitution of the society.

1st, That section 9 be amended to read as follows; "All who were residents of northern Indiana thirty-five years prior to any annual meeting of the society, and who are residents of DeKalb County, shall be considered members of



the society."

2nd. "That the president and secretary of this society shall be members of the executive committee. The president shall be chairman, and the secretary, clerk of such committee." which were voted upon separately and adopted.

On motion, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this society be and are hereby tendered to the members of the band and choir for the music and singing rendered on the present occasion; and also to Mr. F.B. Straw for the use of an excellent organ.

RESOLVED, That J.E. Rose be requested to furnish the secretary of this society with a copy of his address delivered at this meeting, and the secretary request its publication in the county papers.

The following is a list of the old settlers reported to the biographer who have died during the last year: Henry Feagler, born May 24, 1816, died June 16, 1881; John Platter, born Nov. 23, 1809, died Oct. 28, 1881; Aaron Osborn, born Feb. 12, 1793, died Feb. 8, 1882; John Osborn, born April 19, 1817, died Dec. 23, 1881; Daniel McClellan, born in 1816, died in 1881; Louisa McClellan, born 1831, died in 1881; Sarah Stroh, born Sept. 5, 1810, died Sept. 30, 1881; D. Harding, born Sept. 12, 1802, died April 23, 1882; John N. Miller, born in 1819, died Jan. 31, 1882; Sarah Learned, born April 30, 1818, died Sept. 13, 1881; Lemuel Flint, born April 6, 1798, died March 14, 1882; Samuel Headly, born Jan. 30, 1808, died July 22, 1881; D. Stambaugh; Eveline Houlton, born 28 Feb. 1807, died Oct. 13, 1881.

Among the notable ones present at this meeting were Mrs. Maria Smith, widow of Francis Smith, who was the bride of the first marriage, by virtue of a license issued in this county Sept. 7, 1836. She is a daughter of J.J. Gunsenhouser, of Stafford Township. By a curious coincidence, the last marriage license issued prior to this meeting was dated June 14, 1882, and issued for A.B. Countryman and Mary Gunsenhouser, a niece of Mrs. Smith. There were also present the second white child born in the county, now Mrs. John R. Moody; also the first white male child, James Platter, a nice little cherub of 225 pounds,

Taken all together--the pleasant weather, beautiful grove, the address, singing, large number present and the general hand-shaking and cordial greetings--the meeting was a decided success. It is expected now that the next annual meeting (with its enlarged membership) which will be semi-centennial anniversary of the settlement of this county, will prove the largest of any yet held, or that will be held for several years to come.

J.H. Ford, Pres.

W.H. Dills, Sec'y



**JOHN V. BAXTER:** Native of Franklin Township, De Kalb County, Indiana. Graduated in 1876, from the Law Department, of Michigan State University, at Ann Arbor. Upon borrowing three hundred dollars, with an interest rate of 15%, bought a law library and began the practice of law at Butler, Indiana.



The annual meeting of the Old Settler's association for this year will be held at St. Joe, on the 21st. The people at the place are working to make the meeting the largest and most interesting meeting the association has yet held. For the accommodation of those who wish to attend, trains will run on the railroads as follows: Leaving Butler on the Wabash at 8 o'clock a.m. and arriving at Auburn Junction, will connect with train on B & O road which will leave Garrett at 8:40 a.m. and arrive at St. Joe at 9:33 a.m.. Accommodations on the Sawinaw road by which the people from Summit and Waterloo can reach Auburn Junction in time to go east on the B & O will be furnished, but the company has not yet furnished the committee with the time at which the train will run. Returning the train will leave St. Joe at 5:30 p.m. arriving at Auburn Junction at 6:00 p.m. at Butler at 6:30 p.m., also returning to Waterloo and Summit in the evening. Excursion rates will be secured for those who wish to go. Let the people turn out and by their presence reward the St. Joeites for the interest they are taking in the matter.

AUBURN COURIER-----7 June 1883-----Page 4 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*

#### OLD SETTLER'S MEETING

##### The meeting at St. Joe Greatest yet Held

The sixth annual meeting of the pioneer association, of DeKalb County, met in an old orchard on the banks of St. Joseph river, near the mouth of Bear creek and near the town of St. Joe, on Thursday, June 21, 1883. Present, all the officers and a large number of citizens of this and adjoining counties. The inclement weather prevented the calling of the meeting to order until 11 o'clock, which was done by Dr. Ford, the president, when the following exercises were had;

1. Music by St. Joe choir.
2. Invocation by Rev. A.H. Widney
3. Music by Auburn choir.
4. Oration by Gen. L.J. Blair
5. Music by Auburn choir.

Recess until 2 p.m.

Called to order, and music by the Corunna band.

Oration and poem by Rev. Widney.

Music by the band; St. Joe and Auburn choir.

Report of officers for last year.

Election of officers for the ensuing year as follows;

W.L. Blair, President

O.C. Clark, Vice-President

W.H. Dills, Secretary  
John Butt, Biographer  
Cyrus Bowman, Treasurer

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Butler Township - J. Shryock  
Jackson Township - Wm. Carr  
Concord Township - J.D. Leighty  
Newville Township - Jas. Platter  
Stafford Township - H.H. Wanamaker  
Wilmington Township - N.H. Mathews  
Auburn - S.W. Ralston  
Wilmington Township - C. Hanes  
Keyser Township - E. Fisher  
Richland Township - G. Shower  
Fairfield Township - J.M. Brumback  
Smithfield Township - W. Farrington  
Waterloo - H. Willis  
Franklin Township - M. Waterman  
Troy Township - W.R. Emerson

On motion of J.E. Rose, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the thanks of the society be and is heartily tendered to the citizens of the town of St. Joe and Concord Township for the hospitable and generous manner in which we have this day been entertained.

Also that the thanks of the society be tendered to Gen. Blair and Rev. A.H. Widney, for their gifted and entertaining orations on this occasion, and to the Corunna band, Auburn and St. Joe choirs for music rendered.

On motion of W.H. Dills, it was resolved that each committeeman be requested to hereafter be more particular and prompt in sending the biographies of deceased members of the society, to the biographer. Also, that each committee on or before the first day of next December, make out and deliver to the secretary a full and complete list of all old settlers now living in this county, on the first day of July of this, the semi-centennial year of the settlement of the county, giving name and date of settlement. After further music and remarks by old settlers, and the benediction pronounced by Rev. Hartsuck, of Kendallville, the meeting adjourned. During the afternoon the weather became all that could be wished for. The village of St. Joe was simply crowded with people, the private residences were thrown open, the stores, public places and even the streets were filled to overflowing. Peace, quietness, hand shaking and good cheer abounded throughout the day, and no one could be sorry for their attendance.

Too much praise and credit can not be given the citizens of St. Joe and the immediate vicinity, for the complete and through manner in which they devised and executed the program, entertainments and exercises of the day, and especially should be general committee of arrangements. Messrs Lieghty, Widney, Barney, Lawhead, Walters, White, and



Olds, be mentioned for their untiring energy in rendering the meeting such a decided success.

As predicted in the report of the meeting of 1882, this meeting--the semi-centennial--did prove larger and more enthusiastic than any previous meeting. Notwithstanding the formal resolutions of thanks to the speakers, band and choir on this occasion, the officers feel called upon to add that the selections of orators,---Gen'l. Blair and Rev. Widney--were peculiarly appropriate, from the fact that each in childhood were brought by their parents and settled almost within the sound of their voices on this occasion. Their remarks were well timed, appropriate, interesting and very highly appreciated by all. As to the band and choirs, all that can be said it: To be heard and see, is to appreciate and eulogize.

W.H. Dills, Sec'y

J.H. Ford, Pres.

AUBURN COURIER-----28 June 1883-----Page 5 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*

## SEMI - CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The most successful meeting the association has held was June 21, 1883, at St. Joe; and this was the fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of DeKalb County. The meeting was held in a grove of apple-trees adjoining the town, and was called to order by Dr. J.H. Ford, President, who made some remarks appropriate to the semi-centennial of the county's settlement. After the usual opening exercises, such as singing, etc., General Blair was introduced as the orator of the day. It had been raining steadily all the forenoon, and this now increased to a brisk shower. The crowd, however, persisted in standing out in the rain and hearing, and the orator did the best he could under the circumstances, speaking most of the time with an umbrella held over his head.

After the speaking the audience adjourned to dinner. There was plenty of provisions, but some difficulty was experienced in finding a dry place to sit down and "set the table". All were finally accommodated. Immediately after dinner's shooting match and tub race was held, for those interested. On reassembling at two o'clock, Rev. A.H. Widney, a pioneer of this county, though now in the Illinois Conference, was introduced. After some remarks, he read the following poetical sketch, which is so full of pathos and humor, and allusions familiar to the pioneers, that it is worthy a place here. It is entitled:

### "THE WOODS OF ST. JOSEPH"

"Forests and streams of my childhood hours,  
Home in the depths of the wildwood bowers,  
paths that were trod in my boyish days,  
Circuitous, crooked, winding ways,  
Scenes of the cabin, the clearing, the camp,  
Life in the forest shade, sunless and damp,  
such is the picture we paint to-day,  
Such are the scenes we would fain portray,  
Men of those good old honest times,  
Worthy a place in these simple rhymes,  
Building their cabins and taming the soil,  
Brawny and bronzed were these sons of toil,  
Letting in sunlight wherever they came,  
Laying foundation for fortune and fame,  
Women, the mothers and wives of old,  
Weave we their deeds in 'Cloth of Gold'.  
Patient and prayerful they plodded along,  
Weeping at times and then singing a song,  
Gently they guided the stubborn will,  
They have gone--but our mothers rule us still.  
Boys in their blue drilling pantaloons,  
Whistling their old-time rustic tunes,  
Junting the cows by the tingling bells,  
Stinging their feet in the nettley dells,  
Perpetually moving their hands and their jaws,  
In fighting mosquitoes and eating black haws.  
Rosy cheeked girls in their home-spun gowns,



Sweeter than belles of the cities and towns,  
 Dropping corn in the furrowed fields,  
 Gathering the fruits which the forest yields,  
 Plying the home-made hickry broom,  
 Or taking a turn at the old-time loom,  
 Bring a 'pone' on the broad clay hearth,  
 Half is not told of their real worth.  
 But that broad clay hearth has moldered away  
 And her raven locks are thin and grey.  
 But, may I tell it, one winter night,  
 When the snow lay deep and the stars shone bright,  
 Our Nancy sat in a straight-backed chair  
 And somebody's boy in another char;  
 The fire burned low, he rose to go,  
 Murmuring, It's growing late you know,  
 Then to his question she answered 'yea',  
 And they wedded forty years ago to-day.  
 The river St. Joesph, untrammelled came down,  
 From the swales and swamps; it came leisurely down,  
 By the leaves and grasses discolored and brown;  
 On its banks there was neither clearing nor town,  
 But the settler came and the forest fell,  
 Little by little the great trees fell.  
 He was short of money but rich in these.  
 He took a thirty-foot pirogue,  
 And back and forth, again and again,  
 He rowed and he poled to famous Fort Wayne.  
 Poplar and walnut and cherry and ash  
 Fell by his ax with a roar and a crash,  
 And were drawn by the steers on the "beautiful snow",  
 To the bluffs of the river--the river St. Joe,  
 And were sold and rolled in his pocket as cash.  
 Meanwhile did the boys and the girls of St. Joe  
 Go forth to the forest with digger and hoe,  
 And gather the ginseng, the yellow puccoon,  
 And the bleeding roots of the red puccoon,  
 Thus they laid the foundation of thrift and wealth,  
 Not neglecting the simples that minister health.  
 Ah, we shook with the 'agur', I tell you we shook;  
 And the bitters were made, and the bitters we took.  
 There was prickly ash berries, cohosh and snake roots,  
 And that which gives modern men 'snakes in the boots',  
 And a villainous jug with a stopper of cob  
 That gives out its contents with a gurgle and sob.  
 It was fire, it was gall, oh, the horrible stuff,  
 But we took it and lived, and I think that enough.  
 I have joined the Good Templars and rinsed out my mouth  
 In the cleanest of springs in the North and South.  
 But I cannot forget it, the gurgle and sob,  
 Of that infamous jug with its stopper of cob.  
 But I mind me to-day of early schools,  
 With rigid masters and iron rules,  
 The low, log school-house with puncheon floors,  
 Its cob-and-clay chimney and clapboard door;  
 Its teetering benches and sloping shelf  
 Where this trembling had learned to bend itself

To the marks and pot-hooks and curious art,  
 And the copies that spoke through the eye of the heart.  
 Ah, the cork inkstand and the gray goose quill,  
 And the maple-bark ink, I can see them still,  
 I can feel my awkward knuckles snap  
 'Neath the tutoring touch of the ferule's rap.  
 I seem to be writting with tongue and pen,  
 The same old words that were written then;  
 I seem to stand as a boy once more,  
 Inside the open clapboard door;  
 I see the forms as I saw them then,  
 They are girls and boys, not women and men.  
 I hear their well-known voices shout  
 When the day is past and school is out.  
 I feel the touch of the 'tick a tag',  
 I hear the merry victor's brag,  
 I am boy again for I breathe the air  
 Of my boyhood's home, and from everywhere  
 I gather in with a happy song  
 The bits of my boy hood I've scattered along.  
 I have come again as a boy to find  
 The boys and girls that I left behind.  
 We've had out share of the bitter fare,  
 With flecks of sunshine here and there.  
 So thanking God for this festal day,  
 And chasing all cankering care away,  
 Lut us drink a toast--in sassafras tea--  
 To the pioneer of theiry-three:  
 Here's to brove John Houlton's memory."

The Biographer reported the following names of pioneers who had died with the year: Abraham Reaver, Christian Sheets, Mary Dickinson, Isaac Cool, Caroline McGinnis, Lydia Hoffman, Eli Welch, John Brandon, Mary Woodcox, Major S.W. Sprott, Daniel Cool, Isaac Kutzner, James McCrum, Sophia Leas, William McQueen, William Crooks, Minerva Wanemaker, Arline Bartlett and Sammauel D. Long.

The following officers were chosen for the year 1883-'4: President, William L. Blair; Vice-President, Orrin C. Clark; Secretary, William H. Dills; Biographer, John Butt; Treasurer, Cyrus Bowman. The following were elected as members of the Executive Committee: Butler, Joseph Shryock; Jackson, William Carr; Concord, Jacob D. Lieghty; Newville, James Platter; Stafford, Henry R. Wanemaker; Wilmington, Nathan H. Mathews and Charles Hanes; Auburn, Samuel W. Ralston; Waterloo, Henry Willis; Keyser, Elias Fisher; Richland, Gilbert Showers; Fairfield, J.M. Brumbeck; Smithfield, Wellington M. Farrington; Franklin, Miles Waterman; Troy, W.R. Emerson.

History of DeKalb County, Indiana 1885 pgs, 441 - 444

\*\*\*\*\*



## CONCORD PIONEERS

The following list of the early settlers of Concord township, was kindly furnished by J.D. Leighty of St. Joe. It is no doubt somewhat incomplete but it is nearly full as he was able at present to make it. Errors and omissions can be corrected hereafter. We publish it, not only as an act of respect to the pioneers themselves, but to set the matter in motion, so that other townships may take steps to secure a full list of names in each. Listed are settlement dates and place of birth.

Samuel Wasson	1833	
David Butler	1833	
Nelson Ulm	1834	
Mrs. Polly Rhodes	1834	
Jeremiah Rhodes	1834	
Mrs. Jeremiah Rhodes	1834	
Samuel Draggoo	1835	
William Knight	1835	
Cynthia Engle	1835	
Asenath Ricketts	1835	
Henry Robertson	1835	
William Henderson	1836	
Mrs. William Henderson	1836	
Jane Lawhead	1836	
Charles W. Widney	1836	
Mrs. Nancy Wyatt	1836	
John Widney	1836	
Mrs. Nancy Widney	1836	
Eliva Ulm	1836	
James H. Able	1836	
Abigail L. Able	1836	
Electa Able	1836	
Mary Hadsell	1836	
Abraham Johnson	1837	
Charles Widney	1837	
Salomon Woodcox	1837	
G.W. Woodcox	1837	Here
Erastus White	1837	
Jacob B. White	1837	
Ira Ricketts	1837	
Hugh Wyatt	1837	
Jonathan Boyle	1837	
Henry J. Able	1837	Here
Mrs. Samuel Wasson	1837	
H.H. Fales	1838	
Mrs. H.H. Fales	1838	
George Barney	1838	
Mrs. Sophia Moody	1838	
Milas Rhodes	1838	Here
E.D. White	1838	
Susan White	1838	
J.M. Lonsberry	1838	
Martha Lawhead	1838	
Charles M. Coburn	1838	

Isaac Lawhead	1839	
James M. Hamilton	1839	
D.L. Whiney	1839	Here
Nancy Culbertson	1839	
Samuel Lawhead	1839	
Eva Lonsberry	1840	Here
Elizabeth Wineland	1840	
Hugh Maxwell	1840	
Mary Maxwell	1840	
Sarah A. Hull	1840	Here
Martha C. Milliman	1840	Here
Harlow Gee	1840	
Harmon Gee	1840	
O.H. Widney	1841	Here
William Draggoo	1841	
Amanda Meese	1841	
Rebecca Smith	1841	
George Maxwell	1841	
Betsy A. Leighty	1841	Here
John Wyatt	1841	
S.E. Parsons	1841	
Daniel Butler	1842	Here
David Butler	1842	Here
Mary Widney	1842	
Mrs. Erastus White	1842	
Elizabeth Widney	1842	
Jacob Dermott	1842	
Moses Perry	1842	
Jack Moody	1843	Here
Jonas Emanuel	1843	
Benjamin Hursh	1843	
Mrs. M. Widney	1843	
Robert Culbertson	1843	
J.M. Milliman	1843	
Mary Milliman	1843	
Margaret Stewart	1844	
John Leighty	1844	
Mrs. John Leighty	1844	
Sol Barney	1844	Here
Henry Jenkins	1844	
William Leighty	1844	
J.D. Leighty	1844	
Levi Sechler	1844	
Mary Sechler	1844	
Lizzie Chaney	1844	Here
Catherine Silberg	1845	
Robert Johnson	1845	
Sep. Hull	1845	
John W. Dills	1845	
George W. Draggoo	1845	
Mary Ann Koch	1845	
Adaline Showalter	1845	
Catherine Jenkins	1845	





**JOHN BUTT:** In 1870 purchased the Butt's Hotel, Waterloo, engaged in hotel business until 1882, when he was elected Recorder of DeKalb County, on the Democratic ticket.



**JACOB D. LEIGHTY:** with the foresightedness and sagacity characteristic of him, saw the possibility of a thriving town between Hicksville and Auburn, and, with this in view, he and his father bought what was then known as the Blair farm, on which they platted and laid out what is now the town of St. Joe.





**CHRISTIAN SHEETS:** In 1859, Mr. and Mrs. Sheets bought an additional 80 acres of land across the road from their home, from Wesley and Laura Park. Mr. Sheets had one of the model farms in the county and as a citizen he was at all time foremost in the enterprises affecting his neighborhood and appliances for economy and labor saving upon the farm.



**MARGARET (CARR) SHEETS**



**SARAH ANN (BASSETT) COOL:** At the age of 18 she began teaching and continued until her marriage, 1839, to Daniel Cool. The family moved to De Kalb county, and settled in Jackson Township.



## THE OLD SETTLERS

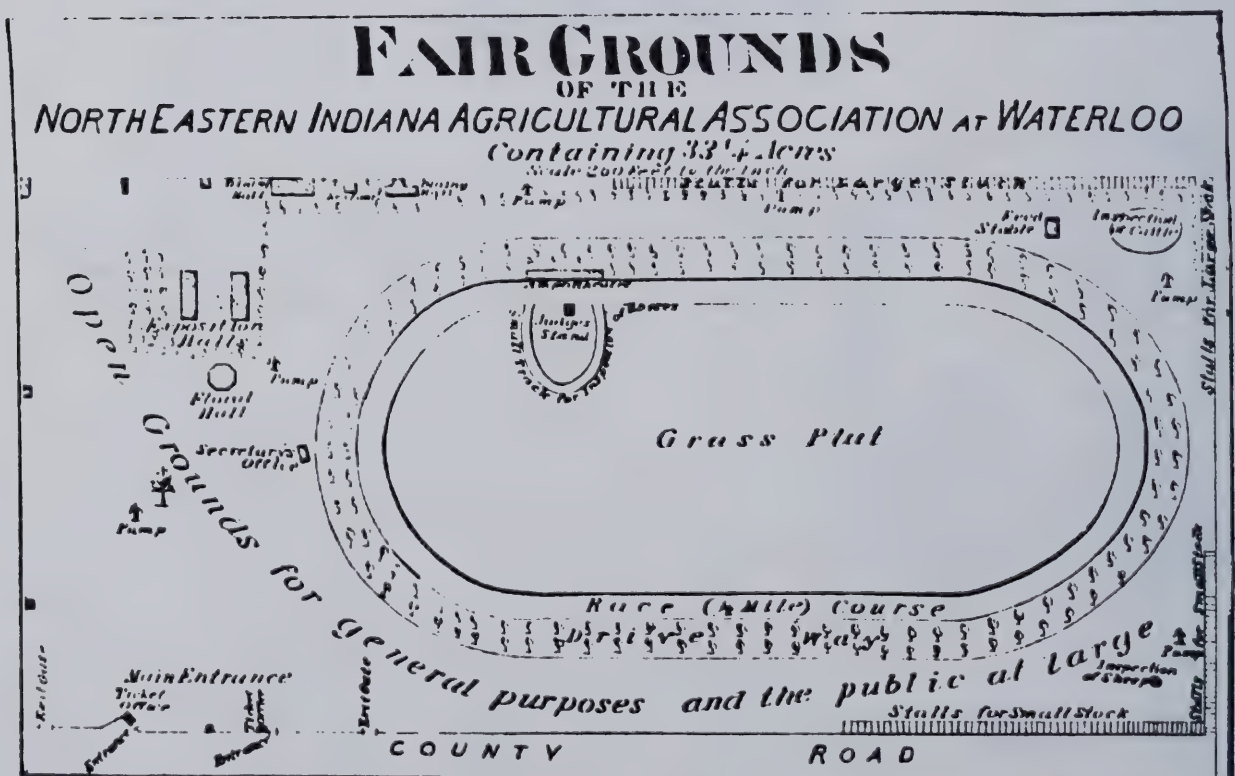
The Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Pioneer Association met last Friday, present the officers and J.D. Leighty, G. Showers, M.H. Mathews, M. Waterman, W.R. Emerson, H. Willis, and Elias Fisher, Executive Committee. On motion, Philip Noel, of Butler township, was appointed to fill the vacancy by the death of Joseph Shryock. On motion, all old settlers present were invited to participate in this meeting. On motion, M. Waterman, H. Willis, Cyrus Bowman, L.J. Blair and R.M. Lockhart were appointed a committee of general arrangements to make all necessary arrangements for holding the next annual meeting at Waterloo, provided the citizens of Waterloo will procure the fair grounds for the purpose, free of charge, and will defray all expenses of such annual meeting and such committee is instructed to report to the president within ten days whether the citizens of Waterloo will accept the propositions; and it is ordered that if such propositions are not accepted, the next annual meeting will be held in Auburn.

W.L. Blair, Pres.

W. H. Dills, Sec.

AUBURN COURIER-----1 May 1884-----Page 1 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*



## OLD SETTLERS.

The early settlers of DeKalb County, as well as a number of the Steuben County pioneers, met at Waterloo last Thursday as before announced. It was the Seventh Annual Reunion for this county, and in spite of the busy season it was pretty well attended. The meeting was on the fair ground at Waterloo, and the speaking was in the grand stand. Judge Morris and Andrew Ellison, who were advertised to be present in the forenoon, did not come, owing no doubt to the funeral of the late Judge Worden of Fort Wayne. The forenoon was spent in general way, and after the noon luncheon, they were called to order in the grand stand, and after some remarks by Gen. Blair, Hon. E.D. Hartman, of Auburn, made the address which was listened to with much interest. After the usual routine business, the meeting adjourned. The officers elected for the coming year were: O.C. Clark, President; Nelson Griffith, Vice-President; W. H. Dills, Secretary; Cyrus Bowman, Treasurer; John Butt, Biographer; Executive Committee, Philip Noel, Wm. Carr, R.G. Coburn, Dr. J. Emanuel, George F. DeLong, George Webster, N.H. Matthews, W. L. Blair, S.W. Ralston, Henry Willis, B.F. Moody, T.D. Daily, Willard Childs, Henry McClish, Miles Waterman and O.P. Learned.

## NOTES

The peanut stands and the lemonade boys, had it all to themselves downtown while the meeting was going on at the fair grounds.

Uncle Ed. Wright had the pleasure to find places for both pairs of his gloves. They were of his own make and tanning, and were of coon skins of fine quality, while the workmanship did credit to uncle Ed's skill as a worker in leather. The fortunate man from this county was Uncle Samuel Wasson, of Spencerville, who came to this county in 1833, and as Mr. Wright had offered the gloves to the one present who had been here the longest. Mr. Wasson can keep his hand warm next winter.

The oldest settler present from Steuben county, was George Harding, of Orland, a fine looking, hale, old pioneer, who is evidently good for several years yet. He settled in Steuben county in 1835, after having been moving about in various parts of what was then the far west. He had been one of the teamsters of those early days, being mostly engaged in carrying passengers. He had occupied for this purpose, a territory extending from west of Cleveland, Ohio, to various points in Iowa, and south to Logansport and other points in Indiana. Among the other noteworthy incidents he recalls, is his experience in working on the pioneer railroad of the west, the old Michigan Southern. This service consisted in hauling a passenger coach from Toledo to Adrian by means of horses. With our present style of railroad travel all around him, the old gentleman laughs heartily whenever he tells of that piece of work. He got Mr. Wright's gloves for the county he represents, and we have no doubt will feel the comfort thereof during the coming winter. We hope both he

and Uncle Samuel Wasson may live till the gloves wear out.

S.W. Ralston, Philip Fluke and a number of other old settlers whose names we cannot recall, were over from Auburn.

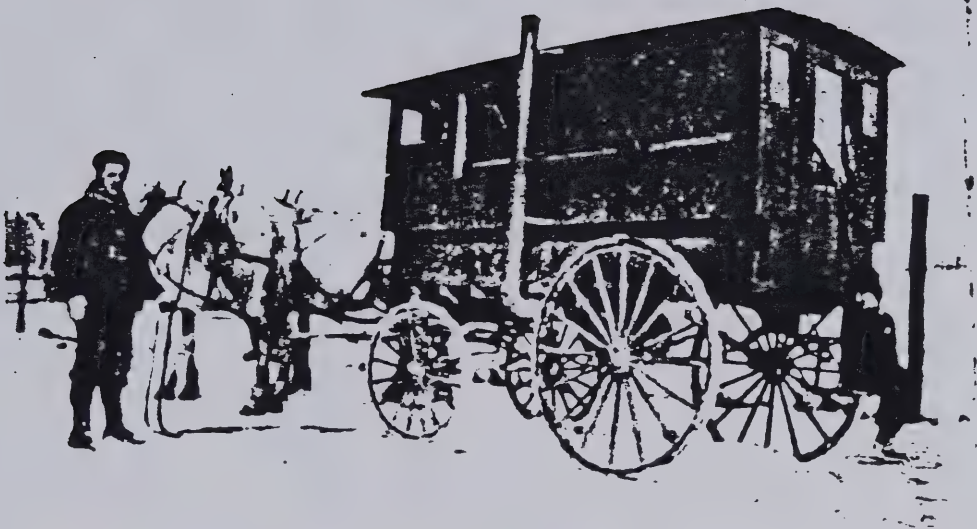
R.J. Daniels was on hand, and sports a new silver headed cane, marked April 19, 1884. John Hamman, of Franklin, and Hon. Miles Waterman were both in town, but we are sorry to say neither are in good health.

The irrepressible showman, the one who thinks he looks so much better with nothing on him but a surcingle, got out on the street and frightened the teams and innocent babies with a decayed old drum.

AUBURN COURIER-----12 June 1884-----Page 5 - Col. 6

\*\*\*\*\*





ONE OF THE FIRST SCHOOL BUSES



OLD TRACTOR

## OLD SETTLERS.

The executive committee of the Pioneers' Association of DeKalb county met June 4, 1885, pursuant to previous notice. On Motion it was resolved that the usual annual meeting be held on the third Thursday of this month, June 18, and that the same be held in the court house square, in Auburn. On motion Dr. J.H. Ford, O.C. Clark, S.W. Ralston, Wm. Carr, J.E. Rose, N. Ensley and S. Hollister be appointed a general committee of arrangements, with full power and authority to do and perform all and everything necessary to be done to have such annual meeting and render the meeting enjoyable and a success. Subsequently such general committee met and appointed the following sub-committee; On speaker, N. Ensley; on program, J.E. Rose, S. Hollister, N. Ensley; on finance, J. Rainier, L.J. Miller, C. Beugnot; on stand and seats, Wm. Carr, G. Rodenbaugh, P. Blodgett, T. Hallam, C. Ashelman; on music Mrs. Lottie Osgood, Mrs. A. Lewis, J. Aber, D. Cochran, M.F. Long; on printing, Dr. J.H. Ford, O.C. Clark, S.W. Ralston; on railroads, J.E. Rose.

### Order of Exercises:

10:30 A.M. old settlers and citizens will assemble on court square; 10:40, call to order by President O.C. Clark; music by Glee Club; prayer by chaplain; song by old settler; address by Elder S.B. Ward; music by Glee Club; recess until 1:30 P.M.. Reports and election of officers, short speeches, music, general business. Between 2 and 3 P.M., if the weather permits, Mr. Aber the photographer will take a picture of all the old settlers present, in a group. Adjournment.

O.C. Clark, President,  
W.H. Dills, Secretary

AUBURN COURIER-----11 June 1885-----Page 5 - Col. 1

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS

The eighth annual reunion of the pioneer association of De Kalb county met in the court square in Auburn, June 18, 1885, pursuant to the provisions of the constitution and previous notice. Present, the officers and a large number of the members and other citizens. The day was very pleasant, neither too warm nor too cool. The accommodations for speaking and citing were complete, and the newly mown lawn amply shaded by the young thrifty forest trees in the square, rendered the site cool, refreshing and inviting.

On call to order by the President, O.C. Clark, and the seating of the oldest settlers upon or near the stand, the exercises commenced with music by the choir, and address to the Throne of Grace by the Rev. C.W. Church, after which

Elder S.B. Ward entertained the association for nearly an hour with an able, interesting and appropriate address, his theme being generally of the pioneer ministers of the county, with most of whom he was personally acquainted. His address was taken in short hand by Mr. Frank Rose, who afterward received the thanks of the meeting, with a request to extend the address and prepare it for publication and preservation.

Then came recess until 1:30, which was to short by half. The recess is really the most enjoyable portion of the day, hand-shaking, greetings, cordial congratulations, spreading of repasts, emptying baskets, forming new and renewing former acquaintances. A Committee consisting of P.B. Nimmons, R. Culbertson, N. Willis, W. Henderson and Dr. Ford having been selected to report the names of officers for the coming year, made report after recess of the following; For president, J. E. Rose; vice-president, J.R. Casebeer; secretary, W.H. Dills; treasurer, C. Bowman; Biographer, John Butt; executive committee, viz. Philip Noel, Wm. Carr, Dr. Emanuel, R.G. Coburn, Wm. Seely, Robt. Arford, N.H. Matthews, W.L. Blair, S.W. Ralston, H. Willis, N. Griffith, W. Childs, P.C. Waterman, J.D. Beard, O.P. Learned and W. Teeters, which report was duly approved, and all declared elected. The secretary read the proceedings of the last meeting, and because of the necessary absence of Mr. Butt, the biographer, read the biographies of the old settlers who had died the previous year, of whom he could obtain information. They were: Philip Gushwa, John Baughman, Mrs. Samuel Jones, Mrs. Jane Cobbler, Mrs. Rachel Moore, Samuel S. Carnanhan, Elgar Treeman, George Wolf, Mrs. Emily C. Hall, Abraham McCoy, Susan Lung, Anna Fair, Lucy H. Holden, and Mrs. Mahala Showers. Also by request from the Waterloo Press, of Dr. Samuel Stough, formerly of this county, who recently died in Kansas, aged 95 years and 20 days. The treasurer reported as follows:

On hand at last report.....	\$2.69
Received since.....	00
Paid out.....	00

Short, interesting and impromptu speeches were then listened to from Uncles Jimmy Weeks, Jimmy Cosper and Jimmy Goetschius, also from Gen. Blair and Hon. Free. Kelly, after which the meeting adjourned and the old settlers invited to the rear of the court house by Mr. Aber, the photographer, who took three large nice pictures of the pioneers in group.

Too much praise cannot be given the several committee for the completeness of all arrangements, and special praise should be given the committee on music for the work accomplished by them. The Auburn martial band, the Jackson township band, were in attendance and were center of attraction to old and young. But the local choir, consisting of Mrs. Osgood, Mrs. Lewis, the Misses Hoffman, Yates and Lanning, assisted by Messrs. Aber, Cochran, Ensley, Widney and McIntosh, won the hearts and admiration of all present for their choice selections and beautiful rendering of the vocal music on this occasion.

A novel feature of the meeting was the trip the old



settlers made around the public square in two large band wagons drawn by a traction engine belonging to Mr. Heberling. It was a sight to see Uncle Samuel Wasson, now the earliest living settler, seated on the front of the puffing engine swinging his hat and cheering. It was quite a treat to old pioneers and not at all like going through the woods by following a line of "blazed" trees. The address which was delivered by Elder Ward will be published in full in next week's Courier.

Such was the day with its enjoyments, recreations, pleasures and associations, marred only by the recollection of those who have passed away, and the regret that many from feebleness and other infirmities were not present, all hoping to meet again at the next annual meeting.

W.H. Dills,  
Secretary.

O.C. Clark,  
President.

THE AUBURN COURIER----25 June 1885----Page 5 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ADDRESS

Delivered at Old Settlers' Meeting,  
June 18, 1885  
by Rev. S.B. Ward.

(Reported by J.E. Rose, Stenographer)

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen. When I was called upon to address you this occasion, I realized the importance of having a younger speaker, one who had strength. But the committee, waiting on me, were not disposed to accept my excuses, and I am before you to try to talk but a short time. In time past, I very distinctly remember of hearing some very good addresses by the pioneers some of whom spoke of the past, unearthing many old events, and at first I thought that it would be difficult to say anything, either new or interesting. But, there is one theme that has not been dwelt upon to any extent, and in that field, perhaps a very large proportion of the Old Settlers will take a deep interest. It would refer to the moral and religious interest of the past, years ago, and I will only try to remember in my remarks men who were in this county. There were many men, of who we have heard very little said, at these meetings, they are the men who visited your homes during sickness. Those who were sent for to come and officiate in the services when you parents, your sister, your brothers, and perhaps your own child, was dead. Men, who came to your houses to solemnize the marriage covenant between your sons, daughters, and perhaps yourselves. Men, whom you set for during times of trouble. I may, speak of some fifteen men, more or less, if any strength and your patience will endure. And, in speaking of these I will speak of men who were your neighbors; men,

who erected the "cabin home", cleared the forests and volunteered their services to open paths through the woods. They took hold of every kind of labor, and of that number there are a very few left, some five out of the fifteen, and I shall give you a brief sketch of them. You know whom I mean - men who were in ministerial life. I will, first speak of those in the Disciple faith, and in speaking of them you will remember something of their characteristics. First, I will mention Cyrus Alton, a splendid orator, and an audience like this would sit and listen under his eloquence for hours. His favorite text was "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost". He owned a farm on the St. Joe river, but died some years ago. The next one of whom I shall speak, is Mr. James Hadsell, a small man, consumptive, and looked as if he might die at any time. Well he was not an orator, although he was a good speaker, and as Paul said, "His bodily presence was weak". He was not a pleasant speaker, but he was logical. One of the first men, perhaps, in the county as to his logic. He at one time represented this county in the legislature, and died a few years ago with disease he had from youth. Samuel Wannamaker is the next I recall. I was not much acquainted with him, and he died a few years ago. Then there was John F. Coburn, a very noble man in many respects. He preached some and farmed some, and was a very good man, he served in an early day in this county, as County Recorder and Clerk, holding both offices at the same time. The next man I think of is Henry Fusselman, he was a good talker, but more of a business man than preacher, and served one of more terms as County Commissioner. I shall next speak of the United Brethren and first, Jonathan Thomas, whose favorite text was, "The Lord God is a sun and a shield, He will give grace and glory, and no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly". He is yet living and was not only able as a minister, but strong physically. He did very much in building up the cause in the county, and he is the only pioneer, that I remember of, being a follower of the United Brethren church. William Cherry was a very good and active preacher. I will remember his favorite text which he so fondly cherished. It ran as follows, "If then hast run with fool men, and they have wearied thee, how wilt thou contend with horses, and in the land of plenty, wherein thou trustest, if they have wearied thee, what wilt thou do in the swellings of Jordan?". He had something of that ancient style of preaching which is peculiar to his denomination, the "Free will Baptist," but he has past our and beyond. The Protestant Methodist connection I do not recall but a single man, that is Samuel W. Widney. Most of you remember him, a strong man and good sermonizer. He once served this county as County Recorder, and finally died; a union soldier in the late civil war. I can remember but one Presbyterian minister of those days Rev. James T. Bliss, was here in Auburn, he was a good and talented man. Years ago he moved to Illinois. The regular Baptist church or the Restricted Communion Baptists. There was a man settled in this county, named



Daniel B. Meade, he staid here for a number of years and moved to Michigan, In Richland township, William N. Welker; he was a pioneer, a very peculiar man and feared nothing and at times he made enemies. His favorite text was, "Restore unto me the joys of Thy salvation, and uphold me by Thy free spirit, then I will teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners will be converted unto Thee". He was very careful to state the "palmist" had not lost his religion, but that he had lost the joy and prayed that night be restored to him. The elder, being in Allen County, he was asked to stay and officiate at a marriage. He stayed and the ceremonies were gone through with very nicely. The next morning when the elder was in the yard taking his usual work before breakfast, the groom came to him and asked: "Well, boss, what's the damage?" The elder said: "It is no damage, I hope". (Laughter) The young man said "Well, what is the price?". The elder replied: "I never charge anything, but what they want to pay me." You all remember those old-fashion Spanish quarters that were only worth twenty cents at that time; well, the groom fished out one of these pieces and handed it to him as to the damage of the night before. (Laughter) The Wesleyan Methodist, I cannot recall any now. The Lutheran had one man, Mr. James Cather, who lives some miles east of Butler. He was an educated minister, or better educated than most of them at that time. I met him one day and said: "How are you getting along?" Now you cannot appreciate what he said as much as I did. Perhaps he is here, and I hope he is. He replied: "I am holding a protracted meeting at Kepler's Corners, getting along splendidly, and the whole church is converted, except live members". I have designedly refrained from speaking of the Methodist Episcopal church, until the last, and I now want to call your attention to a class of men that has entirely passed away. The genuine and unabridged ideal circuit rider of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and what will apply to them will apply to all pioneer circuit preachers. Ordinarily, in that day they were young men. If they had no wife they go \$100 a year, and if they had a wife, they got \$150. Now, I want to bring before your mind those who have passed away, the "traveling circuit preacher." He had a fine horse which cost him about \$10, for horses were then cheap. Well, there was an old-fashioned saddle on the horse, and on the saddle a pair of saddle bags. on one side of which contained, his bible, hymn book a volume of John Wesley's sermons, his book of discipline, which he calls his discipline, and quite a number of copiers of the Western Christian Advocate. In the other side of the saddle bags you would find his wearing apparel. He started on his route (his circuit was from thirty to ninety miles around) preaching at barns, dwelling houses, in groves and school houses where they had them. And, about this time of the year the ague would get hold of the settler in his cabin and shake him through and through, than the chill fever comes, then the bilious fever and later in the season the typhoid. He hears of a family that is sick, he gets there and stops, foe he remembers that pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: "To visit the widow and fatherless in their



affliction, and keep one's self unspotted from the world". He steps into the cabin, and after he has talked to them a few moments, he asks for a Bible. They say they have none, that two years ago when little Willie died, that they had no money to pay for the coffin, and that they gave the maker the Bible for it. Then he would repeat to them a portion of scripture beginning, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pasture, He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me, and Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me." Then he would join in prayer and then go to his next appointment. Now, if you had been standing in the woods, for it is almost night when he mounts his horse, and if you could hear him thinking you would hear him say: "It is four miles to the next -place". He would say: "I cannot see my way through this forest". And patting his horse on the shoulder he would say: "Thank God for you Jack, I would trust you to take me through this forest". Dropping his reins and rising both hands to fight the mosquitos, he commences singing:

"There is a land of pure delight.  
Where saints immortal reign.  
Infinite days excludes the night,  
And pleasures punish pains."

He has one hour to reach his appointment, and he gets there fifteen minutes before time. He goes in and the audience is already there. He takes off his broad brimmed hat, leaving on this belled coat and his long leggins, and commences singing his whole soul giving up in the song. He would sing that grand old hymn of Charles Wesley:

"Who are those arrayed in white,  
Brighter than the noon days sun.  
Foremost of the sons of light,  
Nearest the eternal throne  
These are they who bore the cross  
Nobly for their Master stood  
Suffered in His righteous cause  
Followers of their dying Lord."

I will speak of John McCurdy. He was one of the pioneers and was a strong man. His favorite text was the same as old Elder Thomas: "The Lord God will give grace." His great power was not so much in preaching, as in exhorting. At a Methodist quarterly meeting, as then held, people would come from ten and fifteen miles around, The presiding elder was going to be there to preach, and the whole community would turn out to hear him. The presiding elder would preach a while, and then turning to Mr. McCurdy, would say: "Brother McCurdy will you exhort?" Mr. McCurdy would get up, and I never knew a man that could make as many Methodist shout in fifteen minutes, as could Mr. McCurdy. Ladd Thomas was a very prominent man among the Methodist at that time, and an excellent sermonizer. Then a minister by the name of Bissel, who was also an excellent preacher. Now, I want to close by referring to a gentleman, his name is \_\_\_\_\_ Ricket. He lived in Concord township and was one of three moral, or spiritual,

or religious wonders that have come to my knowledge in my life, and the older men stated to me that he (Mr. Ricket) knew but little except what he found in the Bible. And, so far as I ever had intercourse with him, he was simple minded, except on the one topic, his sermons were descriptive, his powers of description were simply wonderful, surpassing any other man to whom I ever listened, especially upon the theme of the final judgement day. I will give a brief synopsis of one of his sermons on that theme which I listened to nearly forty years ago. His text being, as I now remember, "And the books were open, and other book was open, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged out of the things written in the books." He would first show, with great force of argument and illustration, the necessity of a final judgement. "That every man should be recompensed according as his works had been." After thus showing the necessity of the final judgement, in the imagination, he would represent one of the angels, who, excelled in strength, standing with one foot upon the sea and the other upon the land, raising his hands toward heaven and swearing by him who liveth forever and ever, that time should be no longer, then the sun would be darkened, the moon cease to give he light and the stars fall from heaven," and then he would portray the opening of heaven, and the Lord himself, descending "With a shout and with a voice of the arch angel and the trump of God". Then, at this point, he would set forth the awful force of the shout of the Lord, the voice of the arch angel, and the trump of God in awakening the dead. Then, the Lord sending forth his angels to gather his elect from the four winds of earth, from one end of heaven unto the other end of heaven. Then the gathering together of all the nations and peoples who have ever lived or existed on earth into one vast assemblage. The Lord, then separating them one from another as a shepherd did his sheep from the goats, setting his sheep upon the right hand and the goats upon the left, and he would say to those upon the right, Come ye blessed of my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from before the foundation of the world. The speaker after reciting the terrible judgement of God to those on the left hand and their final doom, would introduce the redeemed into the heavenly land, with all of its glory and its eternal life. My fellow-countrymen, it is not vary likely we may ever meet again. The time has come when I must bid you farewell, I must bid you good bye. I thank the Lord for giving me the strength of voice that I have today. Fare-thee-well while you stay here Farewell. To the young men and women I would say remember what the old pioneers have done, and as there is not one third of their numbers now left, as they shall die, bear them away to their graves tenderly, lower them gently and let the first few shovels of dirt drop lightly. May God bless the citizens of DeKalb County now and hereafter, is my prayer.



**SAMUEL WANEMAKER:** Was a minister who helped Brother Hadsell organize the Newville Christian Church, in 1851, with 21 members.





STEWART P. WARTENBE



MAPLE GROVE PLACE: "The Residence of Stewart P. Wartenbe, Stafford Township, DeKalb County, Indiana.



CORDELIA (WANEMAKER) WARTENBE

## THE OLD SETTLERS

The meeting of the pioneers last Thursday was fairly well attended, and everything passed off very pleasantly. The exercises began with prayer by Rev. S. B. Ward, followed by singing by the Auburn Glee Club. The chief speech of the forenoon was by John Paul Jones, of Lagrange county. In the afternoon officers for the coming year were elected. They are, Henry Willis, president; J.R. Cosper, vice-president; W.H. Dills, secretary; Cyrus Bowman, treasurer; and J.E. Rose, biographer. The executive committee are, P. Noel, W. Carr, R.G. Coburn, Jonas Emanuel, B.F. Blair, S.P. Wartenbee, A. Eakright, A.F. Pinchin, O.C. Clark, R.N. Crooks, Henry Probst, G. Showers, Williard Childs, John Leas, F.D. Oberlin and O.P. Learned. Several good speeches were made by old settlers, among them being Elder Ward, Gen. Blair, and Nelson Prentiss, of Albion. The following amendment to the constitution was then adopted: All persons who have resided in Northeastern Indiana forty years prior to any annual meeting of this association, and who when they settled therein were over twenty-one years of age, or married are designated "pioneers". All other persons who have resided in Northeastern Indiana forty years prior to any such annual meeting are designated "old settlers". And each, pioneer and old settlers are considered members of this association. Adjourned.

W. Dills, Secy.

J.E. Rose, Pres.

AUBURN COURIER-----24 June 1886-----Page 5 - Col. 6

\*\*\*\*\*

The old settlers' meeting which was held at the court room on Monday was quite well attended. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at St. Joe, the date fixed being the third Thursday in June, 1887. The committee on arrangements are R.G. Coburn, Robert Culbertson, O.H. Widney, Sol. Barney and M.E. Olds. These will work up the details of the meeting and further arrangements will be published in time. Our people will remember how pleasant St. Joe made it for the meeting a few years ago, and we predict a big turnout.

AUBURN COURIER-----5 May 1887-----Page 5 Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE OLD SETTLERS

The old settlers of DeKalb county will meet at St. Joe on Thursday, June 16, 1887, to celebrate the 54th anniversary of the settlement of the county. The meeting will be held in an old orchard grove, near the banks of the St. Joe river, where about 40 years ago. Felty Lyberger, one of the early pioneers, now deceased, built a log cabin, and made for himself and family a home in what was then a wilderness of woods, through which the whoop of the Indian and the howl of the wolf were often heard. After 40 years or more, the old log cabin still stands, although in a dilapidated condition, and at the coming meeting it will serve as a land-mark to remind the early pioneers of by-gone days, when the country was new and log cabins were considered a luxury. The people of St. Joe and vicinity are making a special effort to provide every convenience possible, for the comfort and enjoyment of those who attend, and a cordial invitation is extended to every old settler in the county, as well as everybody else to be present on this occasion. The following is the order of exercises for the day: The procession will form at 10 o'clock and march to the grove, headed by the St. Joe and Jackson cornet bands. Meeting called to order by the president. Song by the St. Joe choir, Prayer by Rev. J.M. Langley, Music by bands, "Hail Columbia". Song by the Coburntown choir. Address by Rev. N. Crary, of Hicksville, Ohio. Recess until 1 o'clock. Music by the old settlers. Report of officers. Election of officers. Short speeches by old settlers. Song by the St. Joe choir, Doxology and benediction. At three o'clock there will be a tub race on the river for which a prize of two dollars will be given the winner. Following this will be baseball matches, fantastic parades, foot races and other amusements.

AUBURN COURIER-----9 June 1887-----Page 5 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*



## OLD SETTLERS

The tenth annual reunion of the members of the Pioneer Association of DeKalb county, met on the day fixed by the constitution, the third Thursday of June (being June 16), 1887, at the village of St. Joe, pursuant to previous directions of the executive committee.

At 11 o'clock the vast crowd was called to order by R.G. Coburn, Esq., and on behalf of the citizens of the village and Concord township, extended to the old settlers and visitors a hearty welcome, and the hospitalities of St. Joe. He also introduced the president, Henry Willis, who thereafter conducted the exercises as follows:

Music by the band; music by the choir; prayer by Rev. J.M. Langley. On motion, further exercises were suspended until 1 o'clock P.M., at which time, after further music by the band, and a song, the association was addressed by Rev. N. Crary, of Hicksville, Ohio. The report of the secretary and treasurer were made, the biographer read the biographies of the members who had died during the last year, who were as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>
Alonzo Lockwood	Nov. 3, 1816	Jul. 3, 1886
John Lightner	Oct. 1, 1799	Oct. 22, 1886
Wm. H. McQueen	Jan. 6, 1831	Aug. 1, 1886
Wm. Whetsell	Aug. 29, 1827	Feb. 26, 1887
Mary M. Wagoner	Aug. 13, 1803	Nov. 26, 1886
George Smurr	June 6, 1795	Mar. 8, 1887
Orsavilla Long	1830	Jun. 29, 1886
John Shull	Sep. 26, 1812	Apr. 28, 1887
Anna Edgerly	1811	Feb. 19, 1887
Robert Work	Jul. 23, 1812	Jul. 3, 1886
Ezra Dickinson	Aug. 26, 1798	Sep. 11, 1886
Wm. Gorrell	Jun. 13, 1820	Oct. 20, 1886
Adam Smith	1806	Jan. 16, 1887
Jacob Christoffel	Jul. 25, 1813	Mar. 31, 1887

After which the officers for the coming year were elected as follows:

### Officers

President . . . . . Henry Willis  
 Vice-President . . . . . J.R. Cosper  
 Treasurer . . . . . Cryus Bowman  
 Biographer . . . . . J.E. Rose  
 Secretary . . . . . W.H. Dills

### Executive Committee

Butler Township . . . . . Philip Noel  
 Jackson " . . . . . John S. Boots  
 Concord " . . . . . J.M. Milliman  
 Concord " . . . . . Wm. Henderson  
 Newville " . . . . . B.F. Blair

Stafford "	. . . . .	Daniel McDaniels
Wilmington "	. . . . .	W.L. Blair
Wilmington "	. . . . .	P.B. Nimmons
Union "	. . . . .	R.M Lockhart
Union "	. . . . .	J.R. Cosper
Keyser "	. . . . .	Henry Probst
Richland "	. . . . .	I. Patterson
Fairfield "	. . . . .	David Goodrich
Smithfield "	. . . . .	John Leas
Franklin "	. . . . .	J.D. Beard
Troy "	. . . . .	O.P. Learned

On motion of P.B. Nimmons, the amount of funds in the treasury was ordered paid over to the secretary for postage, etc.

Then came speeches from old settlers, Uncle Sammy Wyatt, General Blair who also recited "Sheridan's Ride", John Engle, S.P. Wartenbe, and others; also an old fashioned "Fa Sol La" song book was brought forth, from which Charles Widney and E.J. Boyle sang a few selections in the old time style to the edification of all.

Taking it all in all, the meeting and re-union of 1887, was a decided success. All admitted the attendance to have been greater than at any previous meeting. The day was all that could have been asked. Providence seemed to have smiled upon us that day in giving such delightful weather, and in blessing the old people with health and vigor, and to the younger folks a feeling of decorum and a desire on their part to make the day pleasant and agreeable to their old friends. Too much praise cannot be given to the committee in which this reunion was conducted. It was perfect in every detail, and the hospitalities of the citizens of St. Joe will long be remembered.

Prof. Howard, of Ohio, got a good ducking in the St. Joe by endeavoring to walk a stretched wire across the river, but he succeeded at last, and then became the lion of the day among the younger class. A fantastic Troupe in the evening excited much interest and merriment.

Henry Willis, President  
W.H. Dills, Secretary.

AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1887-----Page 4 - Col 2

\*\*\*\*\*

### At St. Joe

The old settler's meeting last Thursday was all that could be expected. The attendance was large and from nearly all parts of the county. The south-bound forenoon train on the Jackson branch brought in at least fifty from Waterloo and points north, while the additions here and at the Junction swelled the crowd that took the east-bound B. &

O. train to about 100. Garrett and the country about there also sent quite a number. Many also came down on the afternoon mail, as well as quite a number on the mail from the east. The exercises were held in the old orchard on the south edge of the village, where the stand for the speaker had been erected. The forenoon exercises were brief, consisting in reports, etc., which will be found in the report of Mr. Dills, the secretary, which we publish today. Then came the tub races at the river, and thee walking of a wire that had been stretched across at the same point. The tedious delay and waiting in the hot sun was to a great extent atoned for by seeing the parade of the "fantastical". There were plenty of refreshment stands on the grounds, and as the weather was extremely hot, the old spring down at the foot of the bank was made to do excellent service. We should not forget the scores of hospitable family groups, who, seated under the shade with a generous array of tempting food spread out, could be heard asking the wayfarer and stranger to "take hold". Old settlers are good providers and good cooks, and free-hearted withall. We acknowledge several invitations of this kind, but having already partaken of the hospitality of a bevy of the best looking ladies of Auburn, we could only thank them as heartily as their kind offers were generous. The people of St. Joe threw open their homes to their visitors, and made everyone as comfortable as possible.

AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1887-----Page 5 - Col. 6

\*\*\*\*\*





**OLIVER H. WIDNEY:** After the death of his father, he returned to St. Joe, and there, in 1900, built the opera house

## OLD SETTLERS' DAY.

The 11th annual reunion of the old settlers of DeKalb county, will be held in Auburn, June 21, 1888, in the public square, and all the pioneers and their friends, and everybody else will be expected to come and enjoy a day's recreation and pleasure.

### Order of exercises:

10:20 - Geo.W. Gordon, chief marshal, with the aid of assistants, will arrange, as he deems proper, the old settlers and others on the public square, and march them to the stand.

10:40 - Call to order by the President H. Willis.

- Music by the Band.
- Music by the Choir.
- Address to the throne of Grace, by the Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Finch.
- Music by the Choir.
- Short Addresses for half an hour.
- Music by the Choir.

### RECESS UNTIL 1 P.M.

- Music by the Band.
- Report of Officers.
- Election of Officers.
- General Business of the association and short speeches from old settlers interspersed with music by the choir and band, followed by doxology and benediction.
- Display by the fire company and natural gas wells.

Let everybody come and bring with them a bountiful supply of refreshments, and enjoy a real old fashioned picnic in the beautiful grove on the public square.

### COMMITTEE

THE WATERLOO PRESS-----14 June 1888-----Page 4 - Col 2.

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLER'S REUNIONS

On June 21, 1888, a kind Providence blessed the old settler's and their many friends with as pleasant a day as could be asked for at this time of the year. Although the sun's rays were piercing with heat, a gentle steady breeze fanned the brows of all, and rendered the atmosphere pure and health-giving and grand for the out door exercises. At an early hour the old settlers and pioneers began to arrive, and at once they took possession of the public square - their own ground - their own property, which is kept in order and embellished with their own money. They seemed to act as if they had a right to, just as though they were at home, gathering around the old fireside, meeting and greeting the friends of their youthful days. The public square, celebrated for being the nicest and most beautiful one in the State, seemed glad to welcome its friends within its enclosures, under the shadow of its trees and on its clean and velvety lawn. The program as published, was carried out. At 10:30 a.m., Marshal Gordon, heading a band, marched to the stand, where, after playing a short time. President Willis called the assemblage to order. A prayer was offered by Rev. Finch, of Auburn. An excellent address was then delivered by Judge Nelson Prentiss, of Albion, and several choice songs were given by the Auburn Choir, when recess was taken until 1:30 p.m., at which time music by the band again called the people to the stand. J.E. Rose the biographer, read the biographies of all that had been furnished him eighteen in number. Their names, ages, and dates of death are as follows:

<u>DIED</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGED</u>
June 21, '87	Hannah B. Kepler	77
June 25, '87	Wm. R. Watson	--
June 28, '87	Solomon Brandeberry	75
July 18, '87	Samuel Jones	81
-----'87	Margaret Johnson	72
Oct. 4, '87	Benjamin S. Bailey	74
Dec. 25, '87	Samuel Edgerly	74
Jan. 28, '88	Sarah J.R. Wyatt	67
Feb. 20, '88	Wm. McGinnis	82
Mar. 3, '88	J.J. Imhoff	63
Apr. 21, '88	Daniel Deforest	78
Apr. 22, '88	John Fisher	82
Apr. 29, '88	Paul Lung	77
May 5, '88	Isaac Diehl	76
May 8, '88	Sarah Fisher	82
May 20, '88	James Marsh	72
-----'88	Daniel Altenburg	79
Jun. 17, '88	John McCurdy	--

A committee, appointed before noon for the purpose, reported the following as the officers for the coming year:

President . . . . . George W. Gordon



Secretary . . . . .	W.H. Dills
Treasurer . . . . .	C. Bowman
Biographer . . . . .	J.E. Rose

For the executive the following were appointed:

Butler . . . . .	Philip Noel
Jackson . . . . .	William Carr
Concord . . . . .	Robert Culbertson
Newville . . . . .	S.H. Bartlett
Stafford . . . . .	David McDaniels
Wilmington . . . . .	P.B. Nimmons
Union . . . . .	L.J. Blair
Keyser . . . . .	O.C. Clark
Richland . . . . .	G.I. Patterson
Fairfield . . . . .	John Buchanan
Smithfield . . . . .	E.R. Shoemaker
Franklin . . . . .	Miles Waterman
Troy . . . . .	O.P. Learned

The following resolutions were adopted: "Resolved that the thanks of the pioneer of the county be extended to Judge Prentiss for the excellent address today delivered by him, and that he be requested to furnish a copy of the same to the secretary for publication. Resolved, that the thanks of this association be extended to the Auburn choir and Frank E. Griswold's band for their excellent vocal and instrumental music on this occasion, also to Mr. A.P. Shoaff for his kindness in loaning an organ."

The address by Rev. S.B. Ward, upon the life and services of the Rev. John McCurdy, who died last Sunday, was very appropriate and appreciated by all. The reading of a short original story by Mrs. H.S. Hine, of Sedan, was well received. The recitation of Miss Westphall, of Toledo, of an incident in pioneer life, was highly appreciated and showed the young lady to be possessed of more than ordinary clocutionary accomplishments. The short address of Rev. David Brown, of White county, this State, who came to this county in 1811, with a widowed mother, and settled in the north part of Jackson, was extremely interesting, and with its feeling and pathos, its stories and incidents, was very pleasantly received by all. So was also the song by and assumed old settler (Widney) "Just as young as I used to be", with words for the occasion by a well-known literary lady of Auburn. It was such a decided hit that the old settler (Widney) was compelled to again do his antiquated wardrobe and give it a second rendering. A new useful and interesting feature, was introduced on this occasion under the supervision of Isaac P. Hague, which was a registering all the pioneer present and giving each a badge bearing this inscription, "1846-1888, DeKalb Pioneer". Two hundred and thirty of such were enrolled, with the dates of their settlements as follows:

Of 1833, 2; 1835, 2; 1836, 15; 1837, 11; 1838, 21; 1839, 19; 1840, 12; 1841, 28; 1842, 37; 1843, 23; 1844, 27; 1845, 19; 1846, 22.

At 2:30 p.m., the formal exercises at stand closed somewhat prematurely, in consequence of the display of the fire department upon the streets, followed by the roaring of gas well No. 2, and the burning of the escaping gas, both of which displays caused many expressions of wonder and surprise in fact as much on the part of the citizens of Auburn as with others. Many in Auburn declared that they had never seen the fire engine fly through the streets at the galloping break-neck speed it did on this occasion. Nor had they ever seen well No. 2 belch forth its column of salt water, and be ignited and burn. A little paper of sixteen pages, called "The Old Settler", issued from the Auburn Dispatch office, having a fair cut of the old court house, the program, a list of the officers and members of this society who have departed this life, was gratuitously distributed, and will undoubtedly long be preserved as a souvenir of the day. From the pages and the records of the biographer, we find that during the ten years of our society's life, over one hundred and fifty of its number have crossed the great river and enter the unknown beyond. We feel called to say that our list is not complete. Many worthy and honorable ones names we have not, nor are their names upon our lists. Our local committees and friends have neglected a plain duty which they owe the living and those departed ones. It has been suggested that the list be corrected and completed. Let us hope that it will soon be done and that hereafter no such negligence will again occur. The sum up the review this, the 11th reunion of the pioneers of DeKalb County, the first in the second decade of such meetings and greeting, all felt and acted as one grand family. The day, the place, the song, "American Coronation" and "Our Anthem", the eloquent and feeling addresses, the recitations, the displays, the pleasant breezes, the shady trees, the refreshing shower at 6 o'clock, no disturbance, no accident or ill feelings, not an unkind word, each, all, any and everything combined rendered this day long to be remembered, addened only by the loss of those in the spirit land, and the absence of those who from frailty or other cause, were not permitted to enjoy with us the beauties of this occasion. Already a decade has passed since our organization. Many changes are noticed. More than fifteen of our number annually lie down to sleep the sleep that knows no waking. The locks of those who are left are white and thinner, their eyes dimmer, their brows more wrinkled, their forms more bent and tottering, and their limbs and steps more feeble and trembling. What will the next ten years bring forth? How many of those who met with us to-day will be here then? Who will be the last surviving of those who settled in our county or before January 1, 1846? And who will honor him as he should be honored?

H. Willis, President.

W.H. Dills, Secretary.

THE WATERLOO PRESS-----28 June 1888-----Page 5 - Col 3

\*\*\*\*\*



## OLD SETTLERS

The 12th annual Reunion, of the Old Settlers of DeKalb county, will be held at Auburn, Ind., Thursday, June 20, '89, with the following program; 10:30 - Gen. Blair, Chief Marshal and his assistants, will arrange, as he deems proper, the Old Settlers, and others on the Public Square, and march them to and seat them at the stand; 10:45 - call to order by the President, G.W. Gordon. Music by the Band; Music by the Choir; Prayer by the Chaplain Rev. N.J. Myers; Report of officers; Election of new officers; Music; by the Choir; Recess until 1:30 p.m.; Music by the Band; Address by Mrs. Mary E. Ehlers; Elocutionary exercises by Misses Mabel Hartman, Fannie Casebeer, Isa Coder and Mr. Lin. Kuhlman, interspersed with music, and followed by general business by the association and five minutes speeches from Old Settlers and others; Doxology and Benediction: 3:15 - Two-mile Bicycle Race; Prizes to resident bicyclists of DeKalb county, \$7.50, \$5.00, \$2.50: Display of Auburn Fire Company, and Natural gas wells. Let everybody come and bring with them a supply of refreshment, and enjoy a real old-fashioned picnic in the grove on the Public Square.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE )  
OF ARRANGEMENTS )

THE WATERLOO PRESS-----13 June 1889-----Page 4 - Col. 3.

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' REUNION

The 12th annual reunion of the DeKalb County Pioneer Association, was held on the court square in Auburn, on Thursday, June 30, 1889, pursuant to previous arrangement and the constitutional requirement. The day was one of the most pleasant of the season, which was taken advantage of by more people than at any previous meeting, and supposed by many to be the largest gathering ever convened in the county. At 10:20 a.m. Gen. Blair and his assistants, preceded by the DeKalb Band seated and arranged the multitude on the north side of the court house, when order was called by the president, G.W. Gordon. Music by the Band and choir having been listened to, the Rev. N.J. Myers, pastor of the Auburn Lutheran church, addressed the throne of Grace. Reports of officers were then presented. The biographer, J.E. Rose, read the biographies of the following pioneers:

Name	Age	Died
Elizabeth Leighty	78	Jan. 4, 1889
Jeremiah Rhodes	82	Apr. 3, 1889
Peter Losier	69	Jan. 1, 1889
Peter Treesh	74	Apr. 3, 1889
Mathew George	73	June 15, 1889
Jesse Shatto	78	June 1, 1889



John R. Walker	81	June 9, 1889
George Freeman	70	May 1, 1889
Mary McCosper	71	May 2, 1889
Wm. Brand	72	June , 1889

On motion of H. Willis, the chair appointed H. Willis, J.E. Rose, Wm. Henderson, Robert Culbertson, and R.G. Daniels a committee to report names of officers for the ensuing year. After another song by the choir, recess was taken till 1:30 p.m. The committee on officers reported as follows:

J.W. Leighty, president; R.G. Daniels, vice president; W.H. Dills, secretary; J.E. Rose, biographer; C. Bowman, treasurer.

Executive committee: P. Noel, Butler township; Wm. Carr, Jackson township; R. Culbertson, Concord township; S.H. Bartlett, Newville township; S.P. Wartenbe, Stafford township; J.D. Wood, Wilmington township south; A.F. Pinchin, Wilmington township north; M.B. Willis, Auburn; R.N. Crooks, Waterloo; N. Griffith, Richland township; O.C. Clark, Keyser; J. Buchanan, Fairfield township; E.R. Shoemaker, Smithfield township; F.D. Oberlin, Franklin township; W.R. Emerson, Troy township. Which report was approved and the persons named declared elected as set forth above. For over an hour and a half the vast numbers present were highly entertained by the learned and eloquent address by Mrs. Mary E. Ehlers, the recitations and elocutionary exercises of Miss Isa Coder and Mr. Lin. Kuhlman, and the five minute impromptu speeches by Judge Prentis, of Albion, P.B. Nimmons, Rev. S.B. Ward, J.R. Cosper, John Wyatt, and Gen. Blair, who by request, recited in his best voice and diction the celebrated war poem "Sheridan's Ride." Benediction was pronounced by Rev. S.B. Ward, of Auburn. The display of Auburn Fire Men, with their new engine, new horses, hose cart, bright uniforms and the gushing, roaring flames of the natural gas, was greatly enjoyed by all who witnessed them. Following these displays was the cycle race. W.B. Powell, of Garrett, John Zimmerman, Ed. Robbins and Geo. Tomlinson, of Auburn. The first three were awarded the prizes in the order named, \$7.50, \$5.50, and \$2.50. The judges of the race were Charles Haines, of Butler, Samuel Kennedy, of Waterloo, and Dr. Kester, Garrett. The whole assembly was highly pleased with the entire program, and it would be impossible to give one part precedence over another. The address by Mrs. Ehlers was highly praised by all who heard it. The singing received universal commendation and the band captured all. All other parts performed were received without criticism. In fact old and young and especially the "old settlers" returned to their homes asserting to have been the most pleasant reunion they ever attended, and hoping many returns of similar occasions.

G.W. Gordon, Pres.  
W.H. Dills, Secy.



**JOHN EDGAR BUCHANAN:** Editor and manager of the Auburn Dispatch and the Auburn Evening Star, also general manager of the Auburn Printing Company.

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the DeKalb County Pioneer Association will be held at the Secretary's office, in Auburn, on

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1890

at 1 o'clock, p.m., to select the place and make the necessary arrangements for holding the next annual meeting to be held June 19, 1890. With the President and Secretary, the following persons compose such committee, viz:

Phillip Noel	R.N. Crooks
Wm. Carr	N. Griffith
R. Culbertson	O.C. Clark
S.H. Bartlett	J. Buchanan
S.P. Wartenbe	E.R. Shoemaker
J.D. Wood	F.D. Oberlin
A.F. Pinchin	Wm. R. Emerson
M.B. Willis	

All persons feeling interested in the objects of the association are invited to be present.

J.D. Leighty, President  
W.H. Dills, Secretary

AUBURN COURIER-----1 May 1890-----Page 1 - Col. 6

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS.

The Pioneers met last Thursday on the beautiful court yard in Auburn. After music from the Auburn Foundry Band, Rev. H.A. Sawyer invoked the divine blessing, which was followed by music by the choir, Messers Scott and Widney, Mrs. Yesbera and Miss Culbertson with Miss Hoffman organist.

J.E. Rose, Biographer, reported the following deaths during the year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BORN</u>	<u>DIED</u>
Isaac Lawhead	Mch. 22, '16	May 13, '90
John Hovarter	Nov. 3, '08	June 24, '89
Lucinda S. Dillman	Aug. 27, '39	June 29, '89
May Wallace	Mch. 27, '11	Jan. 15, '90
D. Stonestreet	Oct. 27, '25	Jan 11, '90
Nancy Moody	Sept. 14, '02	Jan. 26, '90
Mariah H. Segner	April 20, '16	May 11, '90
Nancy J. McCrory	Feb. 26, '29	Mch. 17, '89
Nancy D. Carr	Jan. 11, '11	Sept 14, '89
John Butt	Sept. 22, '16	June 29, '89
A.J. Smith	Dec. 29, '31	May 20, '89



J.M. Goetschius	July 4, '12	April 25, '90
Matilda Miller	Feb. 17, '30	May 19, '90
Rebecca H. Wyant	Mch. 18, '26	Jan. 12, '90
John P. Wyant	Feb. 10, '21	Feb. 1, '89

### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

RESOLVED: That the constitution be amended to be read as follows:

Sec. 11. "The annual re-unions of this association shall be held in Auburn.

Sec. 12. All persons who have resided in northern Indiana for fifty year or in DeKalb county since January 1, 1846, shall be designated as pioneers, and all who resided in northern Indiana for thirty-three years prior to any annual meeting, shall be considered as old settlers, and both classes shall be considered members of this association."

Adopted, after striking out "thirty-three" and inserting "forty".

Capt. E.D. Hartman as chairman of the committee on speakers, read the following letters from Ex-Senator Hendry and Hon. J.P. Widney;

Angola, Ind., June 18, 1890

E.D. Hartman, Esq.,

Dear Sir: Your kind favor of to-day is here. The statement of Judge Powers is correct, and I further stated that I believed that I could arrange my business so as to spend the 19th with the old friends in your city. Nothing could give me greater pleasure than to take them once more by the hand. Engagements that I cannot shake off compel me to wait till a future meeting.

Truly Yours,  
A.W. Hendry.

Lakeside, Ohio, May 28, 1890

E.D. Hartman, Esq., )  
Auburn, Ind.. )

Dear Sir" Yours of the 27th inst., received, inviting me to the present at the meeting of the old settlers' organization of your county, held at your place on the 19th of June next. While I greatly appreciate the honor conferred upon me by the committee, through you, in selecting me as one of speakers at the meeting, yet I am compelled by circumstances to decline your kind invitation. My health has not been good for the past two weeks and though improving somewhat, would not warrant me in promising attendance. Were the circumstances different I would very much like to be there. It would give me great pleasur to meet with you and

clasp the hands of the old pioneers whose labors, sufferings and privations have done so much to transform into happy homes and productive farms what was, when I first entered it, fifty four years ago to-day, a tangled wilderness of forest and swamp, inhabited only by wild beasts and roving savages. Your organization recognizes the fact that such men should be remembered and honored not only by contemporaneous but by posterity. Soldiers who have toiled together on the march, slept together on the tented field and fought side by side when the air was full of death, love to meet in after years to greet surviving comrades and together to recount how fields were won and how sufferings were endured, as well as to do honor to, and cherish the memory of other comrades who have passed from life, some, perhaps, amid the flame and smoke of the bloody field where their remains lie buried. To do this is commendable, and honor to the patriots who have offered their lives at the altar to save the country. But your organization recognizes that there are others patriots who deserve well of the country and whose memories should be cherished. Men and women who through a lifetime of toil heroic endurance in labor upon scanty food, of night after night passed in weary watching at the bedside of the sick with no help at hand, and all this that we might have a country worth saving. Many of these noble and self sacrificing ones sleep their last sleep upon the hillsides of the country with no monument to transmit their deeds of heroism posterity. They had a history full of tenderness and of sympathy, of courage under the most trying circumstances, but it has never been written. Many sad memories as well as triumphant victories amid discouraging surroundings have alike been buried with them in the grave and thus pass into oblivion. Your organization avails itself of the only means that can now be used to preserve what is left of the memory of a noble generation that is now passing away, substituting tradition in part for written history. Yearly you meet and pass in review the scenes of years long gone by. Call up a father and mother who sleep in the church yard and again, in memory, hold familiar intercourse. Again, in memory, sit at the table or toil in the field together. Again hear the voice of that Christian father invoking the blessing of heaven upon his little ones clustering around the paternal hearth. These hallowed memories not only do deserving honor to those who have passed away, but cultivate and develop all the higher instincts and finer sensibilities of the living, preparing us to live better lives and thus secure, when we have passed away, some tribute of regard.

Believing that you will have a pleasant and profitable meeting.

I remain yours truly,  
J.P. Widney.

Just before the close of business at the noon hour, President Leighty appointed Cyrus Bowman, S.M. Ralston, J.E. Rose, W.L. Blair and Robert Culbertson as committee to select officers for the ensuing year. The committee reported and the following were elected at the afternoon meeting:

President, W.L. Blair; vice-president, S.W. Ralston; secretary, D.Z. Hoffman; biographer, E.D. Hartman; treasurer, Cyrus Bowman. Executive committee: Butler, Philip Noel; Jackson, Wm. Carr; Concord, Robert Culbertson, Dr. J.. Emanuel; Newville, N.T. Fuller; Stafford, Robert Arford; Wilmington, A.F. Pinchin, P.B. Nimmons; Union, Joseph McKay; Grant, Robert N. Crooks; Richland, Thomas D. Daily; Keyser, Orrin C. Clark; Fairfield, J.M. Brumbeck; Smithfield, E.R. Shoemaker; Franklin, F.D. Oberlin; Troy, W.R. Emerson. During the exercises, remarks were made by Nelson Prentiss, Elder Ward, Peter Notestine, Jonathan Boyle, A.F. Pinchin and others. The regular address was by Rev. D.F. Kain, which was able and eloquent as he always proves. The attendance was good, and all seemed pleased with the reunion.

AUBURN COURIER-----26 June 1890-----Page 4 - Cols. 1 & 2

\*\*\*\*\*



## OLD SETTLERS' COMMITTEE MEETING.

The executive committee of the Old Settlers' Association, met at the office of J.E. Rose Saturday, May 23, at 1 p.m.. Present, W.L. Blair, president; and the executive committee, J.W. McKay, Philip Noel, Wm. Carr, W.R. Emerson, and O.C. Clark. The chief business was to arrange for committees to prepare for the coming meeting to be held at Auburn, June 20. The selected: special executive committee, J.W. McKay, Joseph Rainier, Isaac Hague; on program, J.W. McKay, M.B. Willis, M. Boland; on finance, C.C. Shaffer, Joseph Rainier, H.R. Culbertson; on stand, seating and water, John Treesh, A.J. Ralston, Joseph Stafford, J.C. Henry; on speaker, J.E. Rose, E.D. Hartman, G.W. Gordon; on music T.P. Scott, John W. Baker, W.B. Brown, Chas. Eckhart; on after meeting entertainment, T.H. Sprott, S.U. Tarney, John L. Davis. It was decided that the chairman of these committee be notified of their appointment and requested to get their committee together and make arrangements for the meeting. A resolution was passed that the county papers be requested to donate a copy each, to be mailed to the address of the historian of the society, in order that he might be more certain to receive the obituaries of all old settlers who die during the year. The society will preserve these copies and have been kept as a part of the records. It was ascertained that many deaths of old settlers are not reported, though relatives are always urged to do so. It is hoped, this will hereafter be more carefully done. It would be well for all who have not reported, to do so at once, to the historian, J.E. Rose, Auburn, so he may make his report for the meeting. They then adjourned.

AUBURN COURIER-----28 May 1891-----Page 4 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

We made an error in the date when speaking of the old settlers meeting last week. The time fixed by the society is the third Thursday of June each year. This would make the meeting for this year, June 18, or one week from next Thursday. Now let us keep our eye on the day and make arrangements to give the pioneers a good meeting.

AUBURN COURIER-----4 June 1891-----Page 4 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' DAY IN AUBURN

The day, though cloudy, was pleasant, but it is likely the heavy roads from the recent hard rains, kept many away. Still a fair number was present. As the thick grove in the public square was too damp the meeting was held in the beautiful and roomy Opera House. The meeting was called to order by the president W.L. Blair, and of the officers, there were present on the stage, the secretary, D.Z. Hoffman; the biographer, E.D. Hartman; J.E. Rose, R.G. Daniels, Rev. S.B. Ward and Rev. A.S. Wooton, of the M.E. church, who offered up an eloquent and powerful prayer. The president then called on Mr. Hartman, who read all the biographies he had been able to secure, of those who had died the past year. The names read, were: Ellen Wyant, Hannah Robinson, Thomas D. Daily, Dr. Jonas Emanuel, Geo. Firestone, W.H. Dills, Mrs. Mary Rhodes, John Surfus, Isabel Means, Catherine Comesky, S.W. Ralston, Mrs. Ervin, W.P. Wiley, Daniel Haller, Wm. Shutt, John Kester, Willard Childs, D.C. Headley, Elizabeth Hall, Sebastian Echert, and Rebecca Swihart. Some of the obituary notices, were the full ones, taken from the county papers, and only the essential parts could be given. The biographer spoke of the carelessness of people in furnishing these death notices. He said most of them, were not sent to him directly by the relatives but were obtained from the papers. It is certain that a number of old settlers have departed during the year, of whom no notice whatever, has been received. He urges that more pains be taken, and that obituaries, no matter if they are brief, should be furnished. After the reading, Mr. Rose made a motion that the chair appoint a committee to select officers for the coming year, and report at the afternoon sessions. He selected R.G. Daniels, Isaac Hague, A.F. Pinchin, J.M. Brumbeck and Robert Culbertson. The program for the afternoon was then read, when they adjourned to 1:30 p.m.. At the afternoon session, the ground now being dry, the pioneers met in the public square. They were called together by the band. Then came a song by Morris Widney, for the pioneers like good music, and another by the quartet. The committee to select officers reported: President, J.E. Rose; vice-president R.G. Daniels; secretary, D.Z. Hoffman; biographer, E.D. Hartman; treasurer, Jessie Brumbeck. The executive committee are: Butler township, Philip Noel; Jackson, Wm. Carr; Concord, Wm. Henderson and R.G. Coburn; Newville, N.T. Fuller; Stafford, Stewart Wartenbe; Wilmington, W.L. Blair; Union, J.W. McKay; Richland, Gilbert Showers; Fairfield, Albert Buchanan; Smithfield, E.R. Shoemaker, Franklin, F.D. Oberlin; Troy, W.R. Emerson; Keyser, O.C. Clark; Grant, R.N. Crooks. A.W. Hendry, of Angola, made an able speech. He had been in Auburn, in 1843, when the shade trees were not only plenty, but filled the streets. He spoke feelingly of the old county officers he used to meet, including Maj. Sprott, S.W. Ralston, Wesley Park and others. At the hotel that night they discussed as to the best place for a young man to settle, in the then new town of Chicago, or in Auburn. Decided Chicago would not do - too much ague and mosquitoes.



There was an aider swamp across the street from the hotel, and frogs furnished the music. He illustrated the plain way of doing things in those days, when juries often decided according to their general view of justice, though not always strict law. A man had traded for a worthless horse, a yoke of good steers. Then he wanted to get the steers back. Jury admitted the steer were worth \$35, but only gave him \$25, saying they took off \$10 as a punishment for his general meanness. He spoke of troubles with horse thieves, and the confusion caused by living close to the Ohio line, especially as there was a quarrel then about the location of the state line. He was followed by another song from the quartet. Rev. N.J. Crary, of Hicksville, spoke next. He and Hon. A. Pederton, used to play ball in the site of the present town of Hicksville, so thinks he must be a pioneer. Said Mr. Gunsenhouse, now present, made the first broadcloth coat he ever wore, and it made my best girl say I stepped as high as a blind cow in the cornfield. I believe the young people enjoyed themselves as well as we do now, but they often went long distances to meetings, spelling and singing schools, - sometimes with ox teams. We came from Canada to Defiance, in 1836, driving our cows, etc., through the "Black Swamp" and the almost unbroken forest. Saw here first western dent corn, as had seen only the 8-rowed flint corn in Canada. A man gave me four ears, which we planted. We were acquainted to great distances in those days. Spoke of going with his best girl riding on the old horse, with a big blanket for a saddle. He spoke of the religious sentiment of those days, and the strictness of family rule, as well as at school, and thought a little thereof would be good now. He also spoke of the efforts recently made at Hicksville, that had taken out all the saloons, but the loss of business some had feared, did not result from it. He closed with a fine selection of poetry. A.F. Pinchin here arose and offered a resolution of respect to the memory of the late W.H. Dills, who had been heir secretary from the date of organization till the last annual meeting, when he had declined to serve longer. It was unanimously adopted. Stewart Wartenbe, of Websters Mills, was then called out, and made an excellent off-hand speech, full of pioneer incidents, Indiana stories and memories of the past, for he had been in this or Defiance county, from an early date. He was followed by S.D. Hanna, with a humorous solo, and the regular exercises were over. It was a most successful meeting.

AUBURN COURIER-----25 June 1891-----Page 1 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*



## EARLY SETTLERS AND SETTLEMENT OF DEKALB COUNTY

The Addresses, By W.H. McIntosh,  
at the 15th Annual Meeting  
of the Pioneer Association  
at Auburn, To-day.

### Pioneer Settlers of DeKalb County!

Responding with pleasure to your kindly invitation to address you upon this your annual meeting. I feel oppressed by a sense of inability to do justice to a noble theme - the early settlers and settlement of this county. But I can and do heartily congratulate you upon the inspiring truth that your names will and of right ought to, be inscribed for all time upon the records of local history as leaders in the van of civilization contending with savage nature on her own ground, changing her fresh and potent energies from arboreal to cereal growth, apportioning her area as farm lands, approached by highways, according to your strength and resources and giving to the mighty task, the consecration of your lives for the benefit of coming generations. And posterity will not be unmindful of those who took such active part in the trying and transitional period know as early settlement. In years to come, the historians, incited by public desire to know of these times, will zealously glean and carefully inscribe every event connected with your pioneer experiences. Available facts once indifferently regarded, steadily enhance in interest and value as your numbers decrease and the period approaches when the grave importance of your services as settlers will be recognized more fully, and well-won honors be freely accorded.

It is no light matter to have been an early settler, self banished to voluntary labor in the woods of DeKalb county. Your cheerfully endured hardships, grew accustomed to privation, and were familiar with exacting want. Your faces were browned by exposure and your hands were indurated with constant toil.

Your axes felled the forests where now self-binders reap the wheat; your industry cleared those fields who products support and enrich the thousands of population; and, in all that is material to the great and growing interests of the people, it was your self-denial, wise forethought and patient persistence that laid the foundations for success. The wonderful harvest matured and maturing, came from seed of your planting, tilled by your fostering care. Your undertaking had most arduous and unpromising beginning. Many a sorrowful night and many a lonely day had passed from the building of your first rude shelter, the felling of the first great tree, the planting of your first cleared ground, until that time when you saw the patch become a field, the cabin a substantial house, and recent arrivals had shortened the distance to friendly visitation and timely aid in trouble.

None can know as does the veteran early settler, of his methods and extent of labor, the expedients of necessity, the deprivations of comfort and the pangs of poverty. Nor can the present generation enjoy as did he, in that far away day, the sense of possession, the gradual triumph and the laudable pride of a wonderful achievement.

Happy in retrospection seem those days despite all trouble, when children sought the cows - a social herd busily browsing grass and shrub, their varying bell tones marking respective ownership and some of you belated at this task, may yet recall, the sense of danger that pressed your footsteps close to the cows, while hastening their progress home.

"Pleasant it was when woods were green,  
And winds were soft and low,  
To rest in the sylvan scene,  
Where shadows dark and sunlight sheen,  
Alternate come and go.

It is well that there were amenities of nature and of society at this period, to uphold the spirit, for there were occasions when hope sank low, misfortune and disappointment came not singly, and all the strength of human will and trust in Divine aid were requisite to meet with fortitude and bear with stoicism the crucial trials familiar to early settlement in a forest.

Westward, ever westward from coast and foreign lands across mountain and plain has flowed the resistless wave of migration and emigration including in its masses the boldest and the best from and of the families of the east and the old world. Early in the century, it swept across western New York and Pennsylvania, moved on over Ohio into Michigan and Indiana, and finds its closing manifestations in the rush of thousands into Indian reservations thrown open to settlement.

Early in 1836, one of the many streams found its way along the St. Joe river and thence northward into the noble, unbroken forest that covered all this region. We do not forget that on this occasion, we look into the time-worn faces and meet the kindly gaze of some of those who then came, the pioneers of civilization, saw familiarly the grand scenery of nature and bore a leading part in its marvelous transmutation to the grand possibilities of the present day.

How vividly remembrance wakes to first impressions and how accurately we can fix the dates to such occurrences as seemed landmarks in our lives! But there are none that stand out more distinctly than the occasion connected with leaving the old home in the east and the trying journey to the territory of DeKalb county.

Whom he met, where he stopped over night, how long on the way, what he brought along and how he founded his home are incidents deeply engraved in mind, recalled with satisfaction and zealously maintained against controversy.

What could have induced you to sunder home ties, brave journeys and banish yourselves in the solitude of the unbroken woods? Had you heard rumors and reports of a land



rich in possibilities for agriculture and business, open to entry at nominal price and of a soil so fertile as required only to be excited by rude cultivation to yield the most ample returns? Had not some returning for families, excited by success, in securing desirable quarter sections and some with speculative ends in view, waxed eloquent in flowing depictions of the wilderness as a western paradise where deer ran in droves and wild fowl darkened the air as their immense flocks came and went? Was there not a parents' thoughtful prevision for their children and willingness to sacrifice self without limit to secure for them, landed property by succession?

Whatever the causes that awakened your desires to make your homes in a new country, they were potent to decide your course and to induce preparation for a change of abode.

Alone, or in company, you bade farewell to relatives and friends; and some on foot, some on horseback and some with ox-teams and covered wagons, driving perhaps cows or other stock before you, journeyed slowly westward, regardless of time, undaunted by distance, undiscouraged by difficulties, traversing swamps, fording streams and following the trail of others, or cutting your own road, came at last within the borders of DeKalb county.

No friends, not shelter welcomed your final arrival upon the site of the future farm; but hastily built cabins without door or windows were your houses of refuge, pending the raising of habitations of unhewn logs in which you and your children passed many years and which were endeared to memory as the arena of protracted trials and final triumph.

Somber forests in gloomy grandeur presaged the capabilities of nature and hid in their deep shade a rich soil the sun had never warmed. All about you stood a noble growth of branching beech and towering oak, the sugar maple and the fragrant walnut with many another kingly representative of valued timber; while the marshy soil was flowers wasted their freshness and reptiles crawled unharmed. Such was the scene that met your vision, whether it inspired or depressed your feelings, it made no difference in your course of action. In this the very heart of the wilderness, you began with ax and gun, with steady arm and inflexible will to carve out that splendid civilization whose existence constitutes and imperishable monument of heroic achievement that in all time to come can never be duplicated. Remote location from regular routes of travel and enterprise augmented your burdens and retarded your labors, for it was miles away over almost impassable traces to store and grist mill.

The land, half covered with stumps, was difficult to cultivate; produce could find no market for lack of transportation and each family was impelled to seek relief in its own inventions.

How much money did you bring west with you? Not enough to pay the low rates of taxation levied on your lands, for the legislature of 1849, on account of poverty, even at that date, exempted the residents of DeKalb, Steuben, Noble and LaGrange from payment of state and county taxes on all



agricultural improvements of less value than \$500; and then, not a few became hopelessly delinquent and lost their holdings.

In barter for groceries at Auburn, Spencerville and Ft. Wayne, your produce brought low rates since storekeepers sought in advance to compensate themselves for their search of a market for their wheat and corn, your pork and pelts of game. Years passed away while unabated toil subdued the land and gradually fitted it for the abode of increasing numbers. During the first decade - the present limit of claim to enrollment in your organization - much of the forest was swept away; many neat and comfortable buildings were erected; fields were fenced; orchards, planted; roads made and societies organized. Never did a people labor more diligently or accomplish greater results under like circumstances.

Your work was vital to the development of this country and indispensable to the general progress of humanity. It has been ably done and richly entitles you to restful ease and popular regard. Unostentatious in public, silent under unconscious influence of surroundings, your ranks were filled with men and women cultured and refined, ardent and courageous, of high standing in their old homes, and the dependence for progressive measures, of those who desired a high moral and intellectual standard in the new county.

Denied advantages common to long existing communities, the early settlers had clear and definite ideas of what was most essential and practical, and no labor was begrudged that looked to the material welfare of the widely-scattered community.

Character and Christian principles were evidenced in the speedy construction of school house and meeting houses, that children should not want for instruction, nor the Sabbath fail of remembrance and observance. Rough and uncomfortable were those first buildings but they were on an equality with your homes. Can you recall the names of pioneer preachers so warmly welcomed to your houses, so earnest in their discourses, so familiar themselves with the routine and fatigue of labor? Perhaps some of you may have known Benjamin Alton, the first preacher in DeKalb county. Did he not clear his own land, chopping week days, preaching Sundays and limited in means, appear before his congregation in rough tow pants, coatless, a shoe on one foot, a boot on the other? And, was not his example of industry emulated and his demise lamented as that of a good and worthy man?

All honor to the early minister and the schoolmaster! In the information of society and the best interests of good government, they were devoted to the care and culture of mind and soul, their teachings were the pledge of good behavior, the safe-guard of every Christian home.

There are lost arts. Modern sculptors seek their inspiration among the ruins of Greece and Rome, and the glassware of the ancient Venetian has no present equal. There are lost customs consequent to changed conditions of society. In the early days, every house was open to the newcomer; hospitality was a sacred rite; the latch string

hung outside in token of welcome, shelter and good, and neighbors, though few and far between, met often for mutual and public welfare.

Daily taught the lesson of self-defence, you yet relied upon residents of the vicinity in raising buildings; logging lands, for help in trouble and comfort in society. Rarely did request meet refusal and the pleasure incident to your annual meetings, is largely an outgrowth of your cheerful readiness to help each other in the olden times of need.

You were prompt in resolve and resolute in execution. When provisions gave out, repairs were needed, or your presence required away from home, the rifle was taken from the hooks of antlers, loaded with care to be in readiness for game, and in journey was made on foot. The pioneers of DeKalb county, were pedestrians and walked long distances with no thought of its being a hardship.

And while the bread-winner was away, the faithful helpmate was not idle. Necessity and economy induced the early settlers to cloth themselves in garments made in their own families. Mother and daughter found music in the buss of the spinning wheel and in the double shake of the loom. Housekeeping was simple and practical. A fire in the fireplace lasted a day with little attention; furniture and dishes were few and old-fashioned, and some of you may have supplemented house work by helping your men to gather brush and to plant the first patch of turnips or corn, pumpkins and potatoes.

The monotony of labor was varied by marriage ceremonies and funeral rites. Happiness was augmented by sharing it and grief was allayed by knowledge of sympathy. Sickness was dreaded and death brought a sense of desolation.

When scattered clearings began to admit the sunlight, stagnant pools dammed by obstructed courses and tamarack swamps overhung by clouds of mosquitoes, filled the atmosphere with pestilential exhalations from masses of decaying vegetation that made the balmy air of the summer sunset as deadly as it was grateful.

Alone in the log house, the sufferer from malaria at intervals shook with the deadly ague chill and burned with the wasting fever. The faint cry of sick children blended with the sad lullaby of the over-taxed mother, and not infrequently whole families like that of Asher Coburn were down together for months at a time.

And there was perfect health and pure enjoyment. Life in the open air, vigorous appetite, sound digestion and refreshing sleep, gives buoyant spirits, sparkling eyes and ciastic tread. Merrily the settler swung the ax, cheerily rang the call to midday or eventide meal, and thankfully the comforts of the table were keenly enjoyed.

Years passed away; population increased; clearings enlarged; stumps were removed; houses of framed timbers were built; new furniture relegated the old to the garret, and machinery took the place of the laborious hand work of the early day.

You have seen the hoe and the shovel plow, the scythe, the cradle and the hand rake, give way to the two-horse



cultivator and the twine-binder even as you had seen savagery yield to civilization. How changed the scenery from that of the early day! The landscape is rich with colors of vegetation; woodlands and cultivated fields blend harmoniously; the bland air is redolent of health, while organized societies, convenient school and church, mills, store and post office, not always good roads, and many railroads, bring every convenience to hand to make us all a prosperous and a happy rural people.

To you is owed a great debt that posterity can never repay. To them, the annals of early settlement are vaguely known. The hardships and privations of those times, and, even, comes of the pioneers have largely lost their distinctness and are surely passing away beyond recovery.

What is remembered to-day of Peter Fair, William Miller, John Blair, and John Platter? Of Solomon DeLong, Colin Robinson, Ira Allen and John N. Miller? What of Isaac T. Aldrich, John Houlton, Joseph Miller, the Husslemans and the Storys? What of Wesley Park, the founder of Auburn and of scores of others, whose coming hither but a semi-century ago, broke the solitude and changed the features of the country, from a wilderness to the abode of wealth, luxury and refinement.

It is an instructive and an impressive lesson to note the swift oblivion already settled upon their memories and the forgetfulness discovered in change allusions to their names.

Silently they have passed and are passing from our midst, those victors in the protracted contest with the forces of nature. Familiar faces present at the meeting of a year ago, are sought in vain. Voices that then spoke in your hearing are hushed forever. They have gone to return no more. The Harvester has gathered them in as good wheat well ripened, into His great granary, and you, the few who remain, venerable in whitened locks, wrinkled brow and bowed form, are as the gleanings, even like some fruit that clings to the branches when the time of the vintage is past.

We who have come up later, but faintly realize that in you we see the veteran survivors of the first white occupation of this county, - the actors in strange scenes, the swiftnesses of many weird-like mutations.

It is not permitted to us of a later generation, to be sensible of your feelings on occasions like this. You justly cherish pride and satisfaction in having materially assisted in laying the corner stone to this rich and durable fabric of our mighty commonwealth.

Every sense of justice demands recognition of your services as suggested in the reminiscences of many an old settler Henry Feagler but voiced your feelings in his expressions: "I helped to clear the court house grounds at the county seat."

You have met to-day, in this thriving and beautiful town the ambitious and prosperous capital of your county, to take by the hand and look into the faces of once neighbors, now rarely met - coadjutor in a forever-completed work.

Fond recollection brings to mind the visits made to



distant points by forest foot-paths, unconscious of fatigue and certain of welcome to condole in misfortune or rejoice at prosperity.

Your journeys now are few in number and short in distance, and your reveries when the evening shadows fall, are of those hard blows needed to bring the changes we enjoy and of the heart and brain work cost of privileges confirmed to your posterity.

Each in his separate sphere has nobly done and in behalf of those advantaged by your self-denying lives, I give you frank assurance of their genuine appreciation of the heritage bequeathed them. No service of ours is adequate to requite the work you have done for us, or reward the cares and burdens which have been the price of this inheritance. We can only assure you that what we have received shall be held in grateful memory of your names, your labors, and your virtues.

If in our cultivation of moral qualities, we may give you some pledge of our proper use of what you devise; if, as the wrinkles upon your brows Frau deeper and your steps are less elastic, and you shrink from life's burdens, we may lighten your cares and gladden the evening of your earthly history, we shall count it both a duty and a pleasure.

And if the Father of Mercies shall deign to hear our prayers, then shall your sun decline toward its setting, its closing beams shall be its richest and most effulgent, and it shall set to raise to a higher orbit in that pure world in which God's presence is central light and eternal glory.

Down the vista of life flows a river. You have long been voyagers, sailing down its current, you have shot its rapids, shunned its hidden rocks and are floating slowly now, and serenely out in to the great, cloud hidden sea of the unknown. That river is called Time, that sea is Eternity.

"Oh! a wonderful stream is the river of time,  
As it runs through the realm of tears,  
With faultless rhythm and musical rhyme,  
With boundiess sweep and range sublime,  
As it blends with the ocean of years.

There's a magical isle in the river of time,  
Where the softest chairs are playing;  
There's a cloudiness sky and a tropical clime,  
And a song as sweet as a vesper chime,  
And the Junes with the roses are staying.

And the name of the Isle is the Long Ago,  
And we bury our treasures there;  
There are brows of beauty and bosoms of snow,  
There are heaps of gust, but we lov'd them so  
There are trinkets and tresses of hair.

These are fragments of song that nobody sings,  
And a part of an infant's prayer;  
There's a lute unswept and a harp without strings,  
There are broken vows and pieces of rings,

and garments that she used to wear.

There are hands that are waved, when the fairy shore,  
By the mirage is lifted in  
And we sometimes hear, through the turbulent roar,  
Sweet voices we heard in the days gone before,  
When the wind down the river is fair.

Of remembered for aye, be the blessed Isle,  
All the days of our life till night,  
When the evening comes with its a beautiful smile,  
And our eyes are closing to slumber the while  
May that "Greenwood" of Soul be in sight.

AUBURN COURIER-----16 June 1892-----Page 8 - Cols. 3 & 4

\*\*\*\*\*

### OLD SETTLERS.

We were absent much of the time last week and so failed to notice the old settlers' meeting that was held here. It was in everyway a pleasant meeting, although work was so behind, that many could not come. Still, there was a good attendance and all seemed to enjoy the reunion greatly. The speeches were good especially the address of Mr. McIntosh, was an able effort. In spite of his poor health, he made himself heard all through the assembly, and sustained himself to the last. Many called for a few words from Elder Ward, and we believe he would have talked a few minutes at least, but Dr. McConnell, who had just made one of his wild harangues, got hold of him, and shook him and turned him over and over, as one might say, till he was apparently glad to escape the quiet of his home. Mr. Rose presided at the meeting, and to him and Mr. Boland, Hoffman, Hartman and others much is due for the good management of the meeting. Mr. Hartman read the list of those who had died during the year. Their names are: Mrs. Jerry Plumm, Samuel Till, Mrs. Wyatt, Samuel Swihart, Wm. Draggoo, Jas. Revett, Mrs. M. Owens, S.M. Knott, Mrs. Guthrie, Mrs. Lovina Dilgard, J. Hull, Mrs. Samuel Wasson, Mrs. Annie Wise, Henry Sailor, Mrs. Matilda Henderson.

R.G. Daniels was elected president for the coming year; Gilbert Showers, vice-presidents; D.Z. Hoffman, secretary; J.M. Brumbecks, treasurer; M.B. Willis, biographer. For the township committee men of the association they chose: Philip Noel of Butler township; Wm. Carr, of Jackson; Robert Culbertson, of Concord; W. Beadley of Newville; S. Wartenbee, of Stafford; W.L. Blair, of Wilmington, James E. Rose, Union; Sol. Harding, Richland; O.C. Clark, Keyser; F.W. Willis, Grant; P.D. Childs, Fairfield; Cyrus Bowman, Smithfield; O.H. Taylor, Franklin; E.M. Coll, Troy.

The meeting was made pleasant by fine singing and good speeches. Gen. Blair who is one the among the very earliest of the old settlers, made an acceptable speech, and the

pioneers returned to their homes, hoping for better weather and a full meeting next year.

AUBURN COURIER-----30 June 1892-----Page 8 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*



## OLD SETTLERS.

The meeting to-day, the main thing will be to have a good visit and a good time. The forenoon will be devoted to hearing reports from the secretary and treasurer, electing officers for next year and transacting other business. The afternoon session will begin at 1:30, when Mr. Wooton will make a short speech, to be followed by the main address by Judge John Morris, of Fort Wayne. There will be music by the choir, and the other usual exercises.

AUBURN COURIER-----15 June 1893-----Page 5 - Col. 6

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS,

The day began early with light showers and indications that more were to follow, and though it soon cleared up, many were kept away. Later in the day it became cloudy and towards night a steady rain set in. Still the day was not a bad one, and a good crowd was here to enjoy it. The grounds about the court house were lovely, and the shade very inviting. The scene at noon when so many family parties were having a picnic on the grass in the shade of the trees, was very fine. The forenoon was devoted to business, including reports and election of officers. The officers for next year are Freeman Kelly, president; J.E. Rose, vice-president; D.Z. Hoffman, secretary; R.J. Daniels, treasurer; M.B. Willis is biographer again. The executive committee are Butler township, Philip Noel; Jackson, Wm. Carr; Concord, J.D. Leighty; Newville, B.F. Blair; Stafford, Stewart Wartenbee; Wilmington, north, W.L. Blair, and south, W.C. Roberts; Union, G.W. Gordon; Grant, F.W. Willis; Richland, G.L. Patterson; Keyser, O.C. Clark; Fairfield, John Stonebreaker; Smithfield, E.R. Shoemaker; Franklin, Allen Shultz, Troy, W.R. Emerson.

## THE DEAD

Names of pioneers and old settlers, who died in DeKalb county since June 16, 1892, as read by the biographer at the annual meeting held in Auburn, Ind. June 15, 1893.

John T. George, Born Dec. 19, 1811, at Clarksville, Penn. Settled in Jackson township in 1844 and died June 29, 1892, aged 80 years, 6 months and 10 days.

John McClellan, born Aug. 10, 1817, in Wayne county, Ohio; died June 18, 1892; aged 74 yrs., 10 mo., and 8 days.

John Frick, born Dec. 18, 1834, in Ohio. Settled in DeKalb county in 1844; died in Waterloo, July 11, '93; aged 57 yrs., 6 mo., and 23 days.

Samuel Wasson, born in Funkstown, Penn., July 9, 1809; came to DeKalb county in the fall of 1833; died July 20, '92; aged 83 yrs., and 11 days.

Rebecca Houlton Boyer, born in Highland county, Ohio. Aug. 5, 1813; settled in DeKalb county in 1840 and died Aug. 10, '92; aged 79 yrs., and 5 days.

Paulus N. Calkin, born in Essex county, N.Y., Nov. 27, 1830; came to DeKalb county in 1840 and died July 5, '92; aged 61 yrs., 7 mo., and 8 days.

Catharine McEndarffer Porter, born in Stark county, Ohio, Jan 31, 1829; settled in this county in 1838; died July 20, '92; aged 63 yrs., 5 mo., and 19 days.

Mary A. Gushwa, born in Berks county, Penn. July 18, 1806; came to this county in 1845; died Sept. 7, '92; aged 86 yrs., 1 month and 19 days.

Catharine Howman Shugers, born in Wayne county, Ohio, Aug. 4, 1816; came to this county in 1842; died Aug. 31, '92; aged 76 yrs. 27 days.

Abigail Barnes Goetschius, born in Plymouth, Chenango county, N.Y., Nov. 9, 1815; came to this county in 1839 and died Sept. 11, '92; aged 76 yrs., 10 months and 2 days.

Charles Fulk, born in Wayne county, Ohio, Sept 6, 1818; came to this county in 1844; died Oct. 3, '92; aged 74 yrs., and 17 days.

Benjamin A. Chaffee, Born in Newfield, N.Y., Nov. 11, 1814; came to this county in 1845 and died Nov. 11, '92; aged 78 yrs.

James Findlay Carr, born in Wayne county, Ohio, July 28, 1811; came to this county in 1838, and died Dec. 16, '92; aged 81 yrs., 4 mo., and 18 days.

Matilda McEndarffer Mann, born Sept. 8, 1830 in Stark county, Ohio; died Nov. 26, '92; aged 62 yrs. 2 mo., and 18 days.

Samuel W. Dickinson, born in Randolph, Portage county, Ohio, Sept. 21, 1824; came to this county in 1846; died in Waterloo, Jan. 31, '93; aged 68 yrs., 4 mo., and 10 days.

Wm. McNall, born in Ashland county, Ohio, March 9, 1819; came to this county in Aug., 1843; died Feb. 18, '93; aged 74 yrs., 11 mo., and 9 days.

John O.P. Sherlock, born in Penn., Aug. 17, 1813; came to this county in 1840; died March 25, '93; aged 79 yrs., 7 mo., and 8 days.

Solomon Barnhart, born in Columbiana county, Ohio, Oct. 20, 1823; died at Waterloo Dec. 2, '92; aged 69 yrs., 1 mo., and 12 days.

Peter Jennings, born in Germantown, N.J., Sept. 13, 1802; came to this county in 1843, and died Dec. 3, '92; aged 90 years. 4 mo., and 20 days.

Elizabeth McCoy, born in Md. was an early settler in the county and died Dec. 1, '92 at Rochester, N.Y.

Margaret E. Dirrim, born in Carroll county, Ohio, Apr. 26, 1844; came to this county in 1845; died Apr. 9, '93; aged 48 yrs., 11 mo., and 13 days.

Henry W. Ford, born in Jefferson county, Ohio, Sept. 12, 1827; died March 1, '93; aged 65 yrs., 3 mo., and 19 days.

Abraham McEntarffer, born in Stark county, Ohio, April 20, 1819; came to this county in 1839; died Apr. 4, '93; aged 73 yrs., 11 mo., 14 days.

Jacob B. Hoover, born in Stark county, Ohio, March 25, 1817; came to this county in 1849; died May 14, '93; aged 76 yrs., 1 mo., and 19 days.

Nelson Griffith, born Jan. 24, 1812; settled in this county in 1839; died May 18, '93; aged 81 yrs., 3 mo., and 24 days. He was born in Fayette county Pa.

Other early settlers who have died are: Peter McIntosh, Jacob Bachtel, Geo. Dahuff, Hannah Goodwin Dilgard, Peter Raub, Christian Frantz, Dr. Joel E. Hendericks, and perhaps many others not reported. These last did not settle as early as 1846.

Respect'y submitted,  
Moses B. Willis, Biographer

Afternoon came the speeches. There was a good deal of disappointment over the failure of Judge Morris to be here, but Mr. Wooton made a good address, and was followed briefly by the venerable Noble county pioneer, Nelson Prentiss. Then came the break in time caused by the absence of Judge Morris. Something must be done to fill that gap, and so they hunted up Gen. Blair, and without a minute's notice he got on the stand and gave them one of the best addresses they have had for some time. It was right to the point for he had been a pioneer with the earliest, thought younger in years than many present. What he said called up the old days vividly, and the old settlers and the younger generation as well, gave him the compliment of ceasing their visiting to listen and applaud. We believe it would be a good plan to give the General the main address next year, so he can have time to prepare for it, for he has a fund of early reminiscences to draw from. At the conclusion of the speaking M.B. Willis who



was acting temporarily for president Daniels, whose voice had failed, announced that a little later there would be other exercises including a display of queer conine talent by Knoder's pacing dog, which was to be driven around the square in harness before the little wagon in which he has been training for some time. The rest of the day was spent by those who remained, in a social way, greeting old friends, chatting, telling stories, sitting in the shade and having a good time generally. Sheets Military band furnished good music, and there was excellent singing by Mrs. Yesbera, Lydia Teeters, Mr. Scott and Mr. Widney. Flora Hoffman was organist.

AUBURN COURIER-----22 June 1893-----Page 1 - Cols. 3 & 4

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

The annual meeting of the Old Settlers of DeKalb county will be held at Auburn, Thursday, June 21, 1894. The meeting will be called to order at 10 o'clock a.m., by Hon. Freeman Kelly, president of the association. This will be followed by the annual address by Hon. E.D. Hartman, after which there will be short speeches by the pioneers. The crowd will be entertained with songs, dog races, bicycle parade, military drill by the Auburn Rifles, etc.. Everybody come with a baskets and make this the best meeting ever held in the county.

Committee

AUBURN COURIER-----14 June 1894-----Page 5 - Col. 7

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

The annual gathering of the Pioneers Old Settlers of DeKalb Co. was held on the court square at Auburn June 29, 1894. The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m. by president Freeman Kelly in a pleasant way thanked the audience for their presence and the singers not being present, the business was proceeded with, by a motion which prevailed for the chair to appoint a committee on nominations for the next year. The following gentlemen were appointed as that committee P.B. Nimmons, R.G. Daniels, O.C. Clark, W.L. Blair and D.W. Fair. Adjourned to 1:30 p.m.. At 1:30 the audience was called to order and a double quartet of male voices rendered a beautiful selection, after which the secretary's report was read by D.Z. Hoffman, this was followed by their report of the biography by M.B. Willis. The singers then gave an excellent song which was well received by the large audience. Next came the annual address by Hon. E.D. Hartman, which was very good and instructive. He spoke of the pioneers laying a better foundation than they ever knew, not only in a moral sense, but in the matter of economy, saying that if the principles advocated by the pioneers had been more strictly adhered to by the following generations they would be better off financially today, and there would be more careful expenditure of the public funds. He thought that all old settlers should be very much interested in the management of the public affairs of the county, and that they had reasons to be proud of the structure reared upon the foundation laid by them in early days, also to be proud of the county of their choice as one of the best in the state today.

After the address the quartet rendered a song which was

comic and amusing. The committee report was then read as follows:

President Jas. E. Rose, of Auburn; vice-pres, W.R. Emerson, Troy; Sec., D.Z. Hoffman, Auburn; Biographer, Moses B. Willis, of Auburn, treas., R.G. Daniels, of Waterloo; Twp. Presidents, P. Noel, Butler; Wm. Carr, Jackson; S.S. Shutt, and J.D. Leighty, Concord; Geo. DeLong, Newville; S.P. Wartenbee, Stafford; George Sawyer, Wilmington, south; W.L. Blair, Wilmington north; F.W. Willis, Grant; J.W. McKay, Union; L.W. Treesh, Richland; O.C. Clark, Keyser; J.M. Brumbeck, Fairfield; E.R. Shoemaker, Smithfield; F.D. Oberlin, Franklin; Talma Rummel, Troy. The audience was about to be dismissed on account of an approaching storm when Andrew Sponhoner an old gentlemen from Jackson township stepped to the platform and amused the audience by giving a comic song about the dosing calonel in the early days. Morris Widney then delighted the audience with a comic song in which he imitated the hooting of the owl to perfection. He was encored and gave another fine selection, after which the benediction was pronounced by Rev. W.L. Meese, when the large crowd dispersed without the completion of the program on account of the storm, which seemed to be as annual occurrence.

#### Biographer's Report

Names of pioneers and old settlers who have died in DeKalb county since the annual meeting of June 15, 1893;

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>BORN</u>	<u>DIED</u>	<u>SETTLED</u>
David McDannel	1815	June 26, 1893	1843
Joseph Miser	Jul 30, '14	Jul 8, 1893	1841
Ellen Soule	Nov. 10, '06	Aug. 8, '93	1845
E.E. Calkin	Jan. 10, '12	Aug. 27, '93	1844
Hannah Dirrim	Jan. 28, '15	Sept 21, '93	1845
Marshall Owens	Jan, 15 '25	Sept 21, '93	1846
Mrs. E.J. Ralston	Oct. 7, '25	Aug. 26, '93	1842
Mary Mott	Feb. 4, '06	Oct. 4, '93	1843
Isaac Grate	Jan. 24, '11	Dec. 2, '93	1842
Lucy M. Rummel	May 1, '33	Dec. 17, '93	1836
Mary Blair	Mar. 13, '30	Dec. 19, '93	1842
Peter Grube	Dec. 26, '04	Dec. 23, '93	1844
Rosa Lockwood	Sep. 13, '15	Jan. 13, '94	1837
S.B. Ward	July 22, '16	Jan 30, '94	1842
Irven Lockwood	Apr. 22, '16	Mar. 10, '94	1844
John D. Porter	Sep. 21, '21	Mar. 6, '94	1842
B.F. Moody	Jan. 25, '26	Mar. 28, '94	1836
Mariah Jackman	Apr. 23, '26	Mar. 29, '94	
L. Eichelberger	Dec. 18, '11	Apr. 8, '94	1845
Jont Simon	Aug. 6, '11	Apr. 21, '94	1838
H. Lockwood	Jan. 6, '22	Mar. 25, '94	1836

Some of the old settlers who have lived in the county



forty years and died during the year: David Seery, George Keen, Jacob Simon, Jacob Lehner, Sarah Grogg, Henry Roop, Rebecca Shull.

Perhaps a number of the old settlers have died and been reported to the biographer. Respectfully submitted June 21, 1894. Moses B. Willis, Biographer.

AUBURN COURIER-----28 June 1894-----Page 1 - Col. 3.

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS

The 20th of June is the date selected by the executive committee of the Old Settlers' Association of DeKalb county. Gen. Blair, of Waterloo, is to delivery the address. All who came to the county as early as 1846, and all who have resided fifty years in Northern Indiana, are to be considered "pioneers", and all who resided in the state forty years prior to any annual meeting either in this year or in the years to come, are to be considered "Old Settlers". The township presidents should in all cases, forward the obituary of any old settler who dies in his township, to the biographer of the society. A committee, W.H. McIntosh, E.D. Hartman and F.W. Willis, had been chosen to prepare for the organization of a historical society for the county. They are to report at the old settlers meeting.

AUBURN COURIER-----May 30, 1895-----Page 1 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS.

The meeting began at 10 a.m. in the public square, though as usual but little could be done. They were called to order by the president J.E. Rose and prayer was offered by Rev. J.D. Brosy. The minutes of the last meeting were then read by the secretary, D.Z. Hoffman. A committee was appointed to select names for next year's officers as follows: B.A. Hadsell, L.J. Blair, C.J. Coats, O.C. Clark, D.Y. Husselman. Adjourned till 1:30 p.m..

## Afternoon

Meeting was called to order on time, and after a song by the glee club, the regular business began. The first on program was

## Gen. Blair's Speech

Sixty years ago, there were but 60 families DeKalb county. Now note all the vast multitudes of the county occupy these fertile fields to attest the endurance of the pioneers and fertility of our soil. I was a boy of six years then, and so far am not particularly responsible for the good management of the business of that early day. The speaker compared the hardships of early day, with the greater ease of late conditions. Then, the fields were small and hard to plough, compared with the present fields. The distance we had to go to town. He remembered there were only three buggies in the county at one time, and for even these, no good roads to run them. Only a few men are now left of these early settlers. he spoke of J.J. Gunsenhouser yesterday who at 90 walked to Butler. He told some anecdotes of the cheerfulness and pluck of the old pioneers, and illustrated it by telling of the two veterans, one having lost the right arm and the other the left, consoled each

other, with the fact, that the two would only have to buy one pair of gloves.

The early settlers were large hearted and hospitable. he could remember when several families gathered at his father's house and though the building was small there was plenty of room, and all were surely sheltered, "and there was always room for one more". Perhaps we would not judge closely as to modern hospitality for then there was no other place to shelter them except in the home of the pioneer. Pioneers ought to be allowed to say "I helped and my neighbors helped to do all this". But we cannot be detained here long. Many are old some are infirm, the rain is failing; as night comes on it may be worse. We must not sacrifice the health or endanger the lives of these, so we shall soon close.

These are the men who stood side by side when the log house was built, when the heavy logs were piled high in the log heap in the clearing of farms. Let us spare them from more physical suffering. He spoke of the time there was no grain cradles in the county. Then wishing them all many happy returns of this day he bade them good bye. The glee club then sang in their best style, and inspiring song, while the raised umbrellas told of the failure of the rain to prevent their enjoyment of the music. The club are, Mrs. Garwood, Mrs. R. Shull, Miss Maude Trover, J.M. Widney, George Stealy, T.P. Scott and B.M. Elastings.

#### Biographer's Report

At the call of the President, J.E. Rose, M.B. Willis the biographer read the following names of the pioneers who had passed away during the year:

Mrs. Peter Wyrick, Peter Showalter, Rosanna Skillin, Maria Erehart, C. Tryon, Holmes Link, John Lutz, J.D. McAnnally, Laura Webster, James Till, John McCune, Jonas Eberly, Anthony Dodge, Daniel Salander, Rosanna Garrett, Wesley S. Maxwell, Nathan Squires, Catherine Schoup, Margaret Sheets, Lucetta Bone, A.J. Carmer, John W. Shaffer.

Mr. Rose then called attention to the organization of a county historical society. W.H. McIntosh reported as to what had been done and in the earnest speech, urged, as the biographer also had that more care to taken in reporting matters of interest to the association. On motion of B.A. Hadsell, the chair was instructed to appoint a committee of three as a preliminary step. B.A. Hadsell, W.H. McIntosh and M.B. Willis were appointed.

Mr. Zeigler then recited Will Carleton famous poem. "Over the Hill from the Poorhouse".

The report of the committee on election of officers, here reported the following list, which was adopted L.J. Blair, president; E.D. Hartman, vice-president; D.Y. Husselman, sec.; D.W. Fair, treas.; J.R. Rose, biographer. For township vice-president; Butler, Phil Noel; Jackson, Wm. Carr; Concord, R.G. Coburn; Newville, S.G. Flint; Stafford, I. Gunsenhouser; Wilmington, P.B. Nimmons; Union, G.W. Gordon; Keyser, Elias Fisher; Richland, G.I. Paterson; Grant,



R.N. Crooks; Fairfield, Adam Deetz; Smithfield, J.E. Thomson; Franklin, John N. Clark; Troy, W.R. Emerson.

There was a speech by Jonathan Boyle followed by handshaking. Then the Trumpet Note Band, that had discoursed sweet music for them, played again and adjournment followed. In spite of threatening and actual rain, the meeting was a splendid success.

AUBURN COURIER-----27 June 1895-----Page 1 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*



**NATHAN SQUIRE FAMILY:** In 1853, came to DeKalb County, Indiana, bought a farm, section 22, Jackson Township.



**NATHAN AND ASHER SQUIRE:** Sons of Nathan and Ann S. (Marshall) Squire. Nathan was a member of Co. A., 100th Indiana, V.I., 2d. Brig., 3rd Div., 15th A.C.. Asher was a member of Co. A. 100th, Ind. V.I., died at hospital, Memphis.

## OLD SETTLER'S REUNION

The nineteenth annual reunion of the Old Settlers of DeKalb County will be held at Auburn on Thursday, June 18, 1896. An interesting program has been arranged for the occasion.

Lewis J. Blair, Pres.

J.E. Rose, Sec.

AUBURN COURIER-----4 June 1896-----Page 5 - Col. 7

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS

The Old Settlers' meeting was a very interesting one. Mr. Brosy received many compliments for his address for though not an old settler, his speech was full of good thoughts. Among the other speeches were Simon Bartlett, Tom Kelly and Mr. Wyatt. The committee then reported the following officers for next year.

### OFFICERS

L.J. Blair . . . . .	President
S. Wartenbee . . . . .	Vice-President
D.Z. Hoffman . . . . .	Secretary
R.G. Daniels . . . . .	Treasurer
J.E. Rose . . . . .	Biographer

### COMMITTEE

Wm. Fair . . . . .	Butler Tp.
Silas Nugen . . . . .	Jackson Tp.
Byron Hadsell . . . . .	Concord Tp.
Nathan Fuller . . . . .	Newville Tp.
James Cather . . . . .	Stafford Tp.
A.J. Baxter . . . . .	Wilmington Tp.
A.J. Ralston . . . . .	Union Tp.
Alex McClure . . . . .	Keyser Tp.
David Lawrence . . . . .	Richland Tp.
S.H. Hine . . . . .	Grant Tp.
Albert Buchanan . . . . .	Fairfield Tp.
Edward Campbell . . . . .	Smithfield Tp.
S.K. Firestone . . . . .	Franklin Tp.
Talma Rummel . . . . .	Troy Tp.

AUBURN COURIER-----25 June 1896-----Page 8 - Col. 6

\*\*\*\*\*





**SHELDON HORATIO AND CATHERINE A. (HOUSER) HINE:** In 1902, when rural routes were established from Waterloo, he became a mail carrier, and he was one of the most popular rural route carries of DeKalb county, faithful to the duties of his position.



**THOMAS KELLY:** Spent over six years in the gold fields of California. In 1860 came back to DeKalb county.

## PIONEERS' REUNION

The twentieth reunion of the old settlers association of DeKalb County will be held at Auburn, on Thursday June 17, inst. "All persons who have been residents of the county for the past forty years are eligible to membership."

Come everybody and enjoy a visit with the Pioneers and have a general good time.

L.J. Blair, Pres.

AUBURN COURIER-----10 June 1897-----Page 4 - Col. 3.

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE OLD SETTLERS.

The twentieth reunion of the DeKalb County Old Settlers was held here today. The meeting was held in the court house park and was largely attended. Persons who have been residents of the county over 40 years were eligible to membership, and each registered his name and received a badge which contained the words, "DeKalb Pioneers, 1897".

After noon, several elections were played by the Auburn Military Band and our elderly friends, many of many accompanied by their wives, assembled, and listened to an interesting session. The meeting was called to order by the president, Gen. Blair, of Waterloo. Rev. Colvin then led in prayer after which the president name some committees. James E. Rose read the list of those who had passed to their heavenly home. During the past year 39 of the Pioneers have passed-away. Nearly twice as many as died in the previous year. Hon. E.D. Hartman then made an able and eloquent address which was interesting and full of good things to cheer the hearts of early settlers. Then followed P.B. Nimmons with an interesting address also.

The officers chosen were: C.A.O. McClellan, President; James Platter, Vice-President; D.Z. Hoffman, Secretary; R.G. Daniels, Treasurer; J.E. Rose, biographer.

It is a pleasure and the town should take great pride in having the old pioneers meet with us. They are the men, with the old soldiers, who have made this country what it is, but they are rapidly passing away. Do you old settlers notice that the years come around quicker then they used to? Somehow the old world spins around too fast for us. The treads of life become tangled in the warp and wool of modern days. Even the governor of the weather mixes things up wrong and December is about as pleasant as May. Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years and Decoration Day seem now to come as often as assessments and installments in a mutual insurance company. Faster and faster the anniversary days go by. The years of our pilgrimage up to date number half a century. We are now in the nineties of the present century. The eighties have gone, and the seventies, and the sixties, and the forties, when a babe we slept on a mother's breast "at home"

in a typical Hoosier log cabin.

The following is a list of names of those who were here today and registered, including the year in which they came to the county:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SETTLED</u>
William Embry	1841
D.Z. Hoffman	1845
H.P. Stroh	1848
E.D. Hartman	1847
Isaac Gunsenhouser	1838
G.N. Smurr	1842
M.F. Long	1849
Frank Scholes	1855
P.B. Nimmons	1844
Jacob Link	1852
C.E. Emanuel	1851
G.W. Gordon	1841
John Feagler	1840
Geo. Moore	1856
M.B. Willis	1843
H.R. Culbertson	1853
M.L. Hoffman	1857
Sylvester Wiseman	1851
C.A.O. McClellan	1840
Mrs. C.A.O. McClellan	1840
J.E. Rose	1836
Andrew Baxter	1846
James McClellan	1853
Joseph Link	1853
Jacob Gunsenhouser	1836
L.J. Blair	1835
Isaac Hague	1838
P.J. Showalter	1857
Charles Stimely	1842
Christian Smith	1856
N.T. Fuller	1848
D.W. Fair	1838
M.T. Bishop	1850
A.J. Ralston	1842
Charles Glazier	1855
C.B. Kagey	1852
John Taylor	1846
William Fair	1843
Mrs. Wm. Fair	1845
Robert Showers	1839
R.G. Daniels	1837
Philip Noel	1839
John Crowl	1853
Andrew Duncan	1852
Mrs. A. Duncan	1840
M.A. Whetsel	1837
Wm. Feagler	1846
Mrs. Wm. Feagler	1846
Mrs. M. Whetsel	1841



E.C. Foltz	1848
G.B. Monroe	1836
Wm. Carr	1839
Baylis Boyer	1840
John Miser	1847
Henry Gunsenhouser	1836
Frank Miser	1847
Wm. McClellan	1845
G.I. Patterson	1842
Mrs. G.I. Patterson	1844
G. Mathews	1843
Geo. Bleeks	1854
Mrs. G. Bleeks	1847
Mary E. Thomas	1844
J.W. Baxter	1849
Martin Tustison	1855
Simon Rohm	1847
Fred C. Waterman	1843
Henry Rohm	1845
M.C. Jones	1842
E.R. Shoemaker	1840
Mrs. M.C. Jones	1843
J.R.. Steves	1849
Mrs. J.R. Steves	1849
Mrs. F. Miser	1849
Geo. Bryan	1838
Mrs. Ann Gunsenhouser	1849
Ellen Waterman	1843
C.H. Baker	1856
Geo. Draggoo	1842
Harrison Jones	1845
Arnold Blodgett	1842
Frank Grambling	1849
Rev. W.L. Meese	1855
Mary Fisk	1841
Harmon Gee	1840
J.J. Latson	1854
David Maxwell	1842
Steward Wartenbee	1859
A.C. Osbun	1842
G.W. Stahl	1850
John Stonebreaker	1850
W.S. Carnahan	1855
J.H. Ford	1844
R.J. Fisk	1858
C.C. Walter	1846
Mrs. Wm. Valleu	1853
Mrs. D. Altenburg	1845
Jane Osbun	1844
John Pyle	1847
James Platter	1836
R. Shull	1854
Mrs. Mary Shull	1844
Wm. Brown	1846
S.G. Shook	1845
Lew Hosier	1854

H. J. Foltz	1853
Jos. Rainier	1849
Sara Husselman	1842
Anna Deetz	1850
John Deetz	1855
John Cramer	1858
Mrs. John Cramer	1841
James McDaniel	1842
Mrs. McDaniel	1856
Ella Bianey	1856
Mary A. Feagler	1849
Henry Harvey	1849
Wm. Latson	1854
Milton Chaney	1853
John Height	1854
G. W. Woodcox	1837
Willis Bishop	1838
John Baird	1851
Wilbert Zimmerman	1854
Anna Z. McIntosh	1841
Charles Raut	1854
Lydia Feagler	1843
Mary A. Kagey	1853
Mary J. Cherry	1842
Mary Wycoff	1855
Samuel Maurer	1842
Mrs. M. Kline	1841
Mrs. D. Lawrence	1841
Barbara Knepper	1842
Matilda Soule	1845
Lucie Link	1842
Mrs. Ginder	1843
Mrs. Winslow	1849
Henry Husselman	1842
Mrs. Willis Bishop	1842
Hellen Baxter	1854
Samantha Draggoo	1835
Daniel Gingrich	1842
Wm. Valleu	1853
Mrs. G. W. Gordon	1852
David Goodrich	1848
Mary E. Lockwood	1842
Elizabeth Gee	1839
Mrs. Henry Knott	1839
Amos Walsworth	1856
Eliza Chaney	1844
Wm. J. Walsworth	1838
Mrs. Walsworth	1848
D. D. Miser	1844
Eliza Miser	1845
Harmon Luce	1856
Daniel Maginnis	1842
Mary Boyer	1854
H. H. Cupp	1842
Dock Stafford	1849
Mrs. John Stonebreaker	1844

Charles W. Widney	1836
John Widney	1836
Joseph Prosser	1853
John Geisinger	1846
S.H. Nugent	1857
Sarah A. Maxwell	1853
Mrs. Peter Ditmars	1842
Mary McAnnally	1845
Lizzie Klotz	1855
Ida Foster	1853
Sarah Esselburn	1851
Mary Brown	1857
Jane Clark	1844
Mrs. Marsh	1843
M.B. Masters	1845
Sarah Masters	1853
Caroline Boyer	1853
S. Lige	1843
Anna Flint	1841
Mrs. Lige	1842
Geo. W. Husselman	1845
Wm. Wallace	1849
Henry Shull	1844
James R. Cosper	1841
I.N. Johnson	1837
Mrs. Geo. Husselman	1846
Mrs. Clouse	1847
Isaac Ditmars	1853
Mrs. C. Smith	1856
John Sheffer	1845
Jacob Carper	1853
Priscilla Barclay	1842
Mrs. Wm. Swander	1844
Mrs. Bates	1856
Mrs. H. Burtnett	1856
Uriah Johnson	1837
Mrs. M.E. Kosht	1850
John Olinger	1846
John Robbins	1852
Albert Robbins	1851
John Fretz	1853

AUBURN COURIER-----24 June 1897-----Page 1 - Cols. 3,4,5,

\*\*\*\*\*





**MOSES BALDWIN AND SARAH (MOCHAMER) MASTERS:** Had one of the first blacksmith shops in the county, near his home on South Baxter Street, Auburn, Indiana.



**HENRY AND ELIZABETH (MOTTINGER) STROH:** Resided in Union township.

## OLD SETTLER'S REUNION

The Old Settlers Association of DeKalb county will hold its twenty-first annual reunion, in the Court House Park at Auburn on Thursday the 16th day of June, 1898. The exercises will commence at 10:30 a.m.. There will be good music, good speeches, and an interesting and sociable time generally. Come one and all and enjoy a day with the "old folks".

D.Z. Hoffman, Sec.

AUBURN COURIER-----2 June 1898-----Page 4 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS

At a meeting of the "old settlers association" at the Court House in Auburn on the 28th day of May, 1898, the following committees were appointed. Committee on Finance, Christopher C. Shaffer, Joseph Rainier; Committee on seating, John F. Aber, D.Z. Hoffman; Committee on Music, John M. Widney, Moses B. Willis; Committee on Registering names and badges, Isaac Hague; Executive Committee, M.B. Willis, M.F. Long, John C. Henry, O.C. Clark, was appointed to act as chairman in place of C.A.O. McClellan deceased.

D.Z. Hoffman, Secy.

AUBURN COURIER-----2 June 1898-----Page 1 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS

The early morning was so cold that the old settlers and others came in slowly and late. But by eleven o'clock they were ready to organize. Judge McClellan the president, being dead and O.C. Clark, the vice-president too sick to attend. Hon. Freeman Kelly was chosen to preside. A song was the first in order and then the prayer by Rev. T.M. Guild. D.Z. Hoffman secretary read the minutes of the last meeting which were adopted. A committee was chosen to select officers for next year. They were J.E. Rose, R.G. Daniels, W.L. Blair, Wellington Farrington and one whose name escaped us.

They then adjourned to meet at 2 p.m..

## AFTERNOON

At 2 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Mr. Kelly and prayer offered by Rev. W.L. Meese. Then came the first regular address, that by Rev. W. Hoyt of the Baptist church here. He was followed by Hon. Free Kelly and he by Mrs. Sam Haines of Richland, the man who cleared the trees off the

beautiful grounds in which he was speaking. He was followed by Gen Blair and by G.I. Patterson, the last named calling on the old settlers from Richland to come on stage and let the present generation see them. We go to press before we can get all the proceedings.

AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1898-----Page 1 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

### PIONEER DEAD

The following summary is the list of pioneers who have died within the past year, as read by the biographer, J.E. Rose, at the meeting June 16th. They are furnished us by the kindness of the present biographer, M.D. Willis. It is hoped that care will be taken to report to him all future biographies, so all may be honored with at least a brief mention:

John Brown, born in Knox county, Ohio, Feb. 3, 1821; died Feb. 10, 1898; aged 77 years, 7 days.

Sarah (Treash) Miser, born Aug. 10, 1837; died Jan. 25, 1898; aged 60 years, 5 mo., 15 days.

Joseph G. Raub, born May 25, 1837; died Feb. 16, 1898; aged 60 years, 8 mo., 21 days.

James Cather, born Aug. 20, 1819; died Apr. 2, 1889; aged 78 years, 7 mo., 12 days.

Orin Keep, born July 4, 1821; died Aug. 23, 1897; aged 76 years, 5 mo., 19 days.

Mary A. Watson, born Mar. 15, 1824; died Aug. 27, 1897; aged 73 years, 5 mo., 12 days.

Charlotte Latson, born Oct. 31, 1820; died Aug. 26, 1897; aged 76 years 9 mo., 25 days.

Prudence McNabb, aged 86 years, 7 mo., 28 days.

Isaac Helwig, born June 24, 1832; died Mar. 27, 1898; aged 65 years, 9 mo., 2 days.

Burton Brown, born Aug. 23, 1832; died Sept. 30, 1897; aged 65 years, 1 mo., 7 days.

Leander S. Goodwin, born Aug. 23, 1846; died March 8, 1898; aged 52 years, 6 mo., 6 days.

Susana Easterday, born Mar. 30, 1820; died Feb. 8, 1898; aged 77 years, 10 mo., 8 days.



Rebecca Helts, born Dec. 15, 1818; died May 21, 1898;  
aged 79 years, 5 mo., 6 days.

Philip Lung, born Aug. 15, 1819; died Oct. 23, 1897;  
aged 78 years, 2 mo., 8 days.

Bennett Hixon, born Apr. 16, 1842; died July 7, 1897;  
aged 55 years, 2 mo., 21 days.

Louisa Simon, born June 5, 1820; died Jan. 22, 1898;  
aged 77 years, 7 mo., 17 days.

Elisha P. Hallett, born Sept. 27, 1830; died Jan. 3,  
1898; aged 67 years, 3 mo., 7 days.

Nancy A. Hoffman, born Aug. 24, 1826; died May 4, 1898;  
aged 71 years, 8 mo., 10 days.

Geo. W. Wilmott, born Jan. 10, 1825; died May 5, 1898;  
aged 73 years, 3 mo., 25 days.

Phillip B. Nimmons, born March 24, 1817; died Apr. 6,  
1898; aged 81 years, 11 days.

Chas. A.O. McClellan, born May 25, 1835; died Feb. 1,  
1898; aged 62 years, 8 mo., 6 days.

Andrew J. Baxter, born Feb. 19, 1846; died May 20,  
1898; aged 52 years, 3 mo., 1 day.

Susanna Shull, born Apr. 10, 1822; died May 9, 1898;  
aged 76 years, 29 days.

Wm. McIntyre, born Aug. 9, 1827; died June 3, 1898; aged  
67 years, 9 mo., 24 days.

James Henderson, born (?) 2, 1831; died Mar. 30, 1898;  
aged 67 years, 9 mo., 28 days.

John C. St. Clair, born March 3, 1823; died March 9,  
1898; aged 75 years, 6 days.

John Yard Sr., born March 29, 1812; died March 21, 1898;  
aged 85 years, 11 mo., 21 days.

Mariam (Mead) Haynes, born Jan. 1, 1823; died April 17,  
1898; aged 76 years, 3 mo., 7 days.

AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1898-----Page 4 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLER NOTES.

The speeches were all good and in good taste. Though all or nearly all were by pioneers, they had the snap and fire of early days.

The band delighted the audience, of course and Mrs. Shull's singing was unusually fine. There were plenty of seats, plenty of shade and a clean grass lawn, and everything calculated to make the occasion pleasant. It was noticed that the grounds were dotted with many family groups enjoying lunch, though many preferred to go to restaurants and hotels. But there were many faces, once familiar at these gatherings, that were absent now. They had passed "over the dark river" during the past year.

AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1898----Page 8 - Col. 1

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

The annual meeting of the Old Settlers will be held in Auburn, June 15, at 10 a.m.. An interesting program has been arranged, and we hope all can come.

Isaac Hague, Secretary.

AUBURN COURIER-----1 June 1899-----Page 5 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*

### MEET IN ANNUAL REUNION.

**DeKalb County's Old Settlers  
Enjoy a Day of Rest and  
recreation.**

The weather clerk has been exceedingly kind to DeKalb county's old settlers today and furnished a style of weather - neither too hot nor too cold - that just suited everybody; and the weather was a big factor in bringing out a large crowd of the pioneers who have had so much to do with the growth and development of one of the best counties in the old Hoosier commonwealth. Those who were neighbors in the years gone by, many who are nearing the end of life's journey after many years of toil and care, not ever unmingled with happiness, were again permitted to renew old acquaintances and exchange reminiscences, while there were many more of younger generations to whom the meeting was none the less pleasant. Quite a number who were at the meeting in 1898 have since passed beyond life's borders, and of these there was naught but kindly mention, as befitted their long and useful lives.

The exercises of the forenoon were brief, but interesting. The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Freeman Kelly and the program included excellent singing by a choir of twelve voices, prayer by Rev. T.M. Gulid, and the reading of the reports of the secretary and other officers. The meeting then adjourned for dinner.

The afternoon session opened shortly after 1 o'clock with a well rendered medley of popular airs by the Auburn band and shortly afterward a large crowd had gathered in the vicinity of the stand in court park where the exercises were held. It was a good natured crowd, too, and old and young seemed to vie with each other in making the affair a complete success in every way. The program for the afternoon was interesting throughout, including plenty of good music by the band, singing by the choir, a recitation by Mrs Olive Elson and other numbers, the principal feature being the annual address by Gen. L.J. Blair of Waterloo one of the earliest settlers of the county and a regular attendant at



the annual meetings of the association, which was listened to with much attention by the large audience and heartily applauded at its close. We regret that a lack of space and time of going to press prevents a more extended notice of the different numbers on the program.

The registration of those who have been residents of DeKalb county for more than fifty years was larger than last year, when 316 names were recorded upon the roll of those in attendance. In point of long residence L.J. Blair and William Knight were the leaders, their settlement here dating from 1835: those next to them were Messrs. Jonathan Boyle and Wm. Henderson who came here in 1836: Quite a number were registered who have resided in the county more than half a century, and A.J. Ralston enjoyed the distinction of being the oldest continuous resident of Auburn - 52 years.

Taken all in all it was one of the most enjoyable reunions ever held by the old settlers and we hope all may live to meet again next year.

AUBURN COURIER-----22 June 1899-----Page 1 - Col. 2

\*\*\*\*\*

## PIONEER DEATH ROLL

### The Past Year Shows an Increased Mortality

Biographer M.B. Willis favors us with the list he read at the meeting, showing as follows:

Your biographer has names of the following pioneers and old settlers who have died since the last meeting.

Cyrus Sponhower, born Lancaster County Penn., Feb. 26, 1820, died June 29, 1898, aged 78 years, 4 mo., and 3 days.

Franklin Carlton Francis, born Aug. 13, 1822, died July 28, 1898, aged 75 years, 11 mo., 15 days.

Byron A. Woodcox, born Aug. 8, 1843, died Sept. 3, 1898, aged 55 years and 26 days.

David Lawrence, born Philadelphia County, Penn. Nov. 30, 1821, died Sept. 20, 1898, aged 76 years, 9 mo., and 20 days.

Rev. H.A. Croy, born near Richmond, Va. Oct. 1821, died Nov. 25, 1898.

Mrs. Pricilla Matthews, born near Rainsville, Ohio, Aug. 27, 1805, date of death not given.

Mrs. Mary Forsythe, born in Middlefield, N.Y., Dec. 30, 1806, died Sept 30, 1898, aged 91 years and 9 mo..

Henrieta B. Parks, born Oct. 22, 1836, died Nov. 3, 1898.

Mrs. Elizabeth Sayler, died Oct. 27, 1898

Louisa A. Brundage, born in Ontario County, N.Y. June 1822, died 1898 in Butler, age 77 years.

Mrs. David Blaker, died July 28, 1898.

Amanda F. Updegraph, born in Wayne County, Ohio, May 30,

1836, died Nov. 30, 1898, aged 62 years, 6 mo..

Miss Lydia Cather, born in Canal Dover, Ohio, March 27, 1825, died Dec. 2, 1898 age 74.

Harriet Olds Mason, born Dec. 25, 1831, in Ashtabula, O., died Jan. 6, 1899 aged 67 years and 11 days.

Cornelia Hogue, born Jan. 26, 1817, died Jan. 25, 1899, aged 82 years lacking one day.

James R. Cosper, born Feb. 20, 1813, in Tompkins County New York, died Jan. 31, 1899, aged 86 years.

Elizabeth Reinoehl, born in Wayne County, Ohio Dec. 25, 1846, died Feb. 6, 1899, aged 52 years, 1 mo., and 12 days.

Mrs. Olive Holmes Kennedy, born in Seneca County O. Sept. 11, 1835 died Feb. 15, 1899, aged 63, 5 mo., 5 days.

Harrison Jones, born in Maysville Ky., June 10, 1812, died Feb. 19, 1899 aged 86 years, 8 mo., 9 days.

Edward W. Fosdick, born in Knox County, Ohio, July 12, 1822.

Harmon Gee, born Crawford County, Penn., Aug 11, 1809, died March 12, 1899, aged 90 years.

Joseph Recktenwald, born in Stark County, Ohio, Feb. 26, 1841, died April 26, 1899, aged 58 years and 2 months.

Hannah R. Jones, born in Holmes County, Ohio, Aug. 14, 1834, died May 24, 1899.

William McClellan, born in Wayne County, Sept. 10, 1824, died May 19, 1899, aged 74 years, 8 mo., 9 days.

Elizabeth C. Thomas, born in Clermonth County, Ohio, June 16, 1838, died April 30, 1899, aged 65 years, 10 mo., 14 days.

Margarett Bally, born in Madison County, Ohio, Oct. 31, 1821, died June 10, 1899, aged 77 years, 7 mo., and 9 days.

Columbus Chapman, was born in Martinsburg, June 20, 1826, died June 8, 1898, aged 71 years, 11 months and 19 days.

Levi H. Hovarter, born in DeKalb county, Ind. August 18, 1855, died July 26, 1898, aged 43 years, 11 months and 8 days.

Sylvester Kutzner, born in Stark county, Ohio, December 15, 1832, died August 5, 1898, aged 65 years, 7 months 20 days.

Susannah Shaffer, born in Ashland county, Ohio, September 24, 1835, died July 21, 1898, aged 62 years, 9 mo., and 27 days.

William Shoup, born in Lancaster county, Penn., June 5, 1819, died August 17, 1898, aged 79 years 2 mo., and 12 days.

Alexander Provines, born in Budgetatown, Penn., January 31, 1818, died August 21, 1898, aged 80 years 6 mo., and 21 days.

James B. Baxter, born in DeKalb county, Ind. October 19, 1854, died November 7, 1898, aged 44 years and 19 days.

James H. Brinkerhoff, born May 23, 1822, in Cayuga county, N.Y., died December 14, 1898.

George B. Zimmerman, born near Spencerville, June 15, 1853, died January 14, 1899, aged 45 years 6 mo., and 29 days.

Eliza Snellenbarger, born January 5, 1829, in Columbiana

county, Ohio,. died January 26, 1899, aged 70 years, and 21 days.

Elizabeth Reinoehl, born in Fredericksburg, Penn., March 31, 1808, died January 27, 1899, aged 90 years, 9 mo., 26 days.

Isaac M. Jackman, born in Stark county, Ohio, June 18, 1821, died Feb. 9, 1899, aged 77 years 7 mo.,, and 21 days.

Rebecca Dickinson, born in Burkes county, Penn., March 3, 1822, died February 10, 1899, aged 76 years 11 mo., and 7 days.

Cyrus C. Boyer, born in DeKalb county, Ind., July 2, 1848, died February 25, 1899, aged 50 years 7 mo., and 23 days.

Esther Fretz, born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, August 20, 1833, died March 1, 1899, age 65 years, 6 mo., and 11 days.

George Beard, born in Maryland in 1844, died February 1899.

Margaret A. Link, born in Brightenburgh, Germany, November 25, 1827, died March 29, 1899, aged 71 years 4 mo., and 4 days.

Mary A. Dirrim, born in Petersborough, England, August 13, 1832, died May 8, 1899, aged 66 years 8 mo., and 25 days.

Emeline Stroh, born in DeKalb county, October 13, 1848, died May 1, 1899, aged 50 years, 6 mo., and 18 days.

Jacob Ringer, born in Stark county, Ohio, August 4, 1826, died May 25, 1899, aged 74 years, 9 mo., and 21 days.

Benjamin R. Dearborn, born in Wayne county, N.Y., September 12, 1816, died May 26, 1899, aged 82 years, 8 mo., and 14 days.

Anna Bixler born in Center county, Penn., August 20, 1814, died, aged 84 years 5 mo., 14 days.

Joseph J. Walter, born in DeKalb county, November 7, 1849, died June 1, 1899, aged 49 years 7 mo., and 24 days.

William H. Madden, born at Mt. Vernon, Wayne County, Ohio, April 8, 1825, died June 8, 1899, aged 75 years.

George W. Row, born in Holmes county, Ohio, November 14, 1831, died May 25, 1899.

Other names of whom I have received obituaries are as follows:

William Roberts.

Samuel Row

Mrs. John Stonebraker

#### Increased Mortality

The increase in the number of deaths reported for past six years is shown here.

In 1894 . . . . .	27
In 1895 . . . . .	23
In 1896 . . . . .	15
In 1897 . . . . .	38



In 1898 . . . . .	31
In 1899 . . . . .	55

M.B. Willis, Secretary.

AUBURN COURIER-----22 June 1899----Page 4 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*

In order that the biographer of the DeKalb County Pioneer association may make a complete report at the annual meeting to be held soon, each township president should at once send the obituary of any pioneer or old settler that has died since our last meeting to M.B. Willis, Auburn.

AUBURN COURIER-----7 June 1900-----Page 5 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE OLD SETTLERS

Owing to the delays we could not get a complete report yesterday, but give it in main today. In the morning little was done but to appoint committees and read the list of deaths for the past year. This we give elsewhere. In the afternoon came report of committee and short speeches by old settlers including those by M.B. Willis and R.M. Lockhart.

Fine recitations were given by Rosemond McIntyre and Helen Smith, and there was music by the Auburn Band.

It was decided to change the rule that locates the reunion at Auburn each year and let it go to other towns. It will be at St. Joe next year.

The attendance was not as good as usual, owing to several causes, one being the fact that people were trying to get their corn clean after so long a wet spell. Another reason was the probability of more rain, which in fact, came on them before they adjourned. The exercises were however good. The death list is unusually large. Judge Hartman was made president of the meeting Hiram Pooler had charge of the grounds and furnished water and kept order in good shape.

AUBURN COURIER-----28 June 1900-----Page 1 - Col. 2

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE DEATH ROLL

The following is a list of pioneers and old settlers who have died in DeKalb county since the meeting of 1899:

#### Pioneer

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>BORN</u>	<u>DIED</u>	<u>SETTLED</u>
Barbara Olinger	Dec 8, 1820	July 3, 1899	1846
Louisa Burley		Aug 29, '99	1836
Israel H. Grob	Feb 8, 1838	Nov 19, '99	1845
Henry H. Knott	Mar 10, 1834	Aug 17, '99	1846
Samuel Mochamer	Apr 23, 1834	Sep 11, '99	1834
Leonard Hoodlemier	May 23, 1834		1842
Ruth C. Hague	Apr 16, 1815	Apr 3, '00	1838
W.M. Farrington	Dec 10, 1822	Dec 7, '99	1844

John Martin	Nov 16, 1822	Jan 20, '00	1840
Elisa Barnhart	Dec 5, 1823	Jan 24, '00	1847
William Valleau	Oct 10, 1820	Sep 25, '99	1843
Morris H. Boren	Nov 12, 1836	May 2, '00	1843
Sallie Shaefer	Mar 5, 1840	Feb 8, '00	1841

### Old Settlers

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>BORN</u>	<u>DIED</u>
Delila Topper	Oct. 3, 1825	July 5, 1899
Henry Frick	Nov. 23, 1815	July 4, 1899
Edmund Freeman	Oct. 22, 1813	Aug. 1, 1899
Elizabeth Whetsel	Feb. 23, 1847	Aug. 14, 1899
Anna Pepple	Dec. 22, 1821	Aug. 31, 1899
Andrew Smith	June 12, 1830	Oct. 18, 1899
John Meek	Apr. 21, 1810	Oct. 28, 1899
Mary Morr	May 5, 1821	Oct. 17, 1899
Samuel Cornell	June 29, 1821	Nov. 28, 1899
Nancy Brown	June 6, 1814	Dec. 24, 1899
Margaret Reese	1810	Dec. 24, 1899
Henry Crooks		Jan. 17, 1899
John C. Owens	Jan. 1, 1827	Jan. 7, 1900
Allen P. Andrews	Oct. 14, 1827	Jan. 24, 1900
Margaret Bontrager	Mar. 10, 1837	Feb. 7, 1900
Martin C. Jackman	Jan. 10, 1847	Feb. 10, 1900
Mary Miller	Oct. 3, 1832	Feb. 11, 1900
Michael Teutsch	Jan 19, 1817	Mar. 14, 1900
Thomas Leason	Dec. 25, 1813	May 19, 1900
Geo. W. Stahl	Sept. 6, 1831	Apr. 13, 1900
John Musser	Oct. 9, 1819	Apr. 22, 1900
Rev. James A. Krum	Sept. 27, 1857	Apr. 30, 1900
Mary M. Cornell	Dec. 25, 1812	May 25, 1900
Lovina Groh	June 16, 1844	May 25, 1900
Mary J. Walter	Feb. 8, 1848	May 29, 1900
Barbara Harn	Apr. 15, 1821	June 3, 1900
James Griswold	Jan. 20, 1819	June 8, 1900
Thomas Woods	Apr. 11, 1814	Feb. 23, 1900
Lewis Moore	Feb. 8, 1843	Apr. 26, 1900
Perry Fitch	Jan. 6, 1842	Apr. 13, 1900

Moses B. Willis, Biographer.

AUBURN COURIER-----28 June 1900-----Page 1 - Cols. 3 & 4

\*\*\*\*\*

### **REUNION OF PIONEERS**

The annual reunion of the DeKalb county Pioneer Association will be held at the old school park in Auburn on Thursday, June 21, 1900, when the following program will be observed:



## Forenoon Session

Call to order by the President at 10:30 a.m.  
Song by Choir.  
Invocation by Rev. Brosy.  
Registering old settlers and distribution of badges by the secretary.  
Appointment of committees, etc.  
Adjournment for dinner.

## Afternoon Session

Music by the Band.  
Oration by Rev. Trover.  
Reports of Committees; 1-. Secretary. 2. Biographer. 3.  
Nomination and elections of officers etc.

There will be attractions not mentioned in this program, so let every pioneer be present and enjoy the day. All who have resided in the county since 1846 are pioneers; all who have been residents for forty years are old settlers.

THE AUBURN DISPATCH-----14 June 1900----Page 1 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

### OLD SETTLERS MEETING

#### **A Pleasant Though Not a Large Meeting - Interesting Talks by Old People**

Not a very large crowd attended the old settlers meeting last Thursday, probably owing to the threatening weather, and the meeting came to a close sooner than it would otherwise have done on account of the rain.

The president being absent Oliver Widney presided. Prayer was offered by Rev. W.L. Meese.

Capt. Willis moved to receive the rule to meet in the county seat which was carried.

The chair appointed Capt. Willis, Gen. Blair and Wm. Carr as committee on place of meeting and nominations, after which the meeting adjourned for dinner.

The afternoon session was opened with prayer by Rev. W.L. Meese after which Mrs. R. Shull, Mrs. Geo. Lanning and Mrs. Will Eckhart entertained the audience with a musical selection with organ accompaniment by Miss Hoffman.

The committee on nominations and place of meeting made the following report:

## OFFICERS

President . . . . .	R.M. Lockhart
Vice-President . . . . .	O.H. Widney
Secretary . . . . .	Sol. Barney
Biographer . . . . .	M.R. Willis, Sr.
Treasurer . . . . .	Isaac Hague

## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wm. Fair . . . . .	Butler	Township
Wm. Carr . . . . .	Jackson	"
M.E. Olds . . . . .	Concord	"
N.T. Fuller . . . . .	Newville	"
Jos. Wilson . . . . .	Stafford	"
D.W. Stewart . . . . .	Wilmington	"
D.Z. Hoffman . . . . .	Union	"
G.B. Monroe . . . . .	Richland	"
S. Reinoehl . . . . .	Fairfield	"
Oscar Taylor . . . . .	Franklin	"
Jere. McClintock . . . . .	Troy	"
Jasper Waterman . . . . .	Grant	"
Ed. Kehlam Jr. . . . .	Keyser	"

The next place of holding the annual meeting will be St. Joe, Indiana.

Which report was adopted.

Morris Widney sang a solo with organ accompaniment.

The band entertained the audience with a selection.

Next was a recitation by Miss Helen Smith, followed by Secretary Hague's report.

The most interesting feature of the meeting was a few short talks by the old people.

R.N. Lockhart after stating that he had been in the county forty-five years, having come here in 1855, told about the old settler's meeting at Indianapolis in connection with the state fair, at which about three hundred people were present, some of them having immigrated into the territory before Indiana became a state. Mr. Lockhart lectured the committee and those who had the management of the present meeting on the lack of preparation and for not attending to their business and making the meeting generally known. The speaker promised better accommodations and a better meeting next year at St. Joe.

Mr. Wyatt said that he was Old John Wyatt. He came to this county in 1837 and bought 300 acres of land for himself and another party. He had four or five head of cattle and nothing to feed them on, and as they would go around his log cabin at night he would have to cover his head to keep from hearing their racket. They were nearly starved but eventually came out in good shape. Notwithstanding all his hardships the Lord had been good to him and he was not now destitute. The people now have their horses and buggies land the cars and such improvements and do not realize the

hardships the pioneers underwent. We are now living in the last 100 years of the 2000 since the Christian era and the people should wake up to their best interests. This was the first speech Mr. Wyatt ever made.

Rev. J.N. Wilson said that people thought preachers like repeating rifles. When he was in the army a rebel prisoner asked what kind of guns the yankees had for he couldn't expose himself in the least without attracting a shower of bullets, and so he had "just to lie down and let you'uns come and take me in". The Yankees told him that they would wound their guns up and they shot until they run down. So people think the preacher is wound up Sunday and runs all the week. The speaker was a native of the Ohio and the second white child born in this township. The hardships of pioneers required men and women of nerve. They cleared up the wilderness and made it blossom as the rose. The present generations owes a debt of gratitude to the pioneers, and the proverb, "thou shalt bow down to the hoary head", is appropriate here. The discourtesy of laughing when these old people make mistakes in speaking is to be deplored, for they acquired their education in cutting down trees and preparing for our enjoyment, and this generation should carry on the work they have commenced.

After music by the band S.B. Warten related some of his experience. The work of the pioneers was done mostly with ox teams. The early settlers were troubled greatly with mosquitoes. They had no matches, so to start a fire they would shoot a wad from their gun into combustible material, and to keep off the mosquitoes they held their faces over the smoke. They frequently had to drink water from the horse tracks, which contained wigglers and tadpoles, and they closed their teeth together when they got down to drink so they wouldn't get more meat than drink. Food was very scarce, no wheat and very few potatoes they had planted, to keep themselves alive. Potatoes were small then, one could put a half a dozen in his mouth at once and still whistle Yankee Doodle and not miss a note. The present generation don't appreciate the labors and trails of the pioneers.

Jonathan Boyle came to this county sixty-three years ago. Several of his old associates of fifty years ago are living, but most of them are buried out of sight. Shortly after he began life here for himself he was burned out, saving only a coat for himself, a dress for his wife, a pair of pillow cases and a handkerchief. Everything was high priced. Muslin cost from 18 cents to 3 shillings, wheat \$2.00 per bushel, potatoes \$1.00, and other things in proportion. In addition to his other misfortune he had ague and shook for sixty-three days in succession. All the pioneers were poor and not able to help each other much. They did their trading in Fort Wayne. The settlers had no money and that merchants wouldn't trust them. They went to Col. Spencer to buy corn. He sold them six bushels at .75 cents to be paid for when they were able. They had to go six miles down the river after it, and when they returned home, the neighborhood had all the corn they wanted. For farming tools and implements the pioneers had their ox sleds,

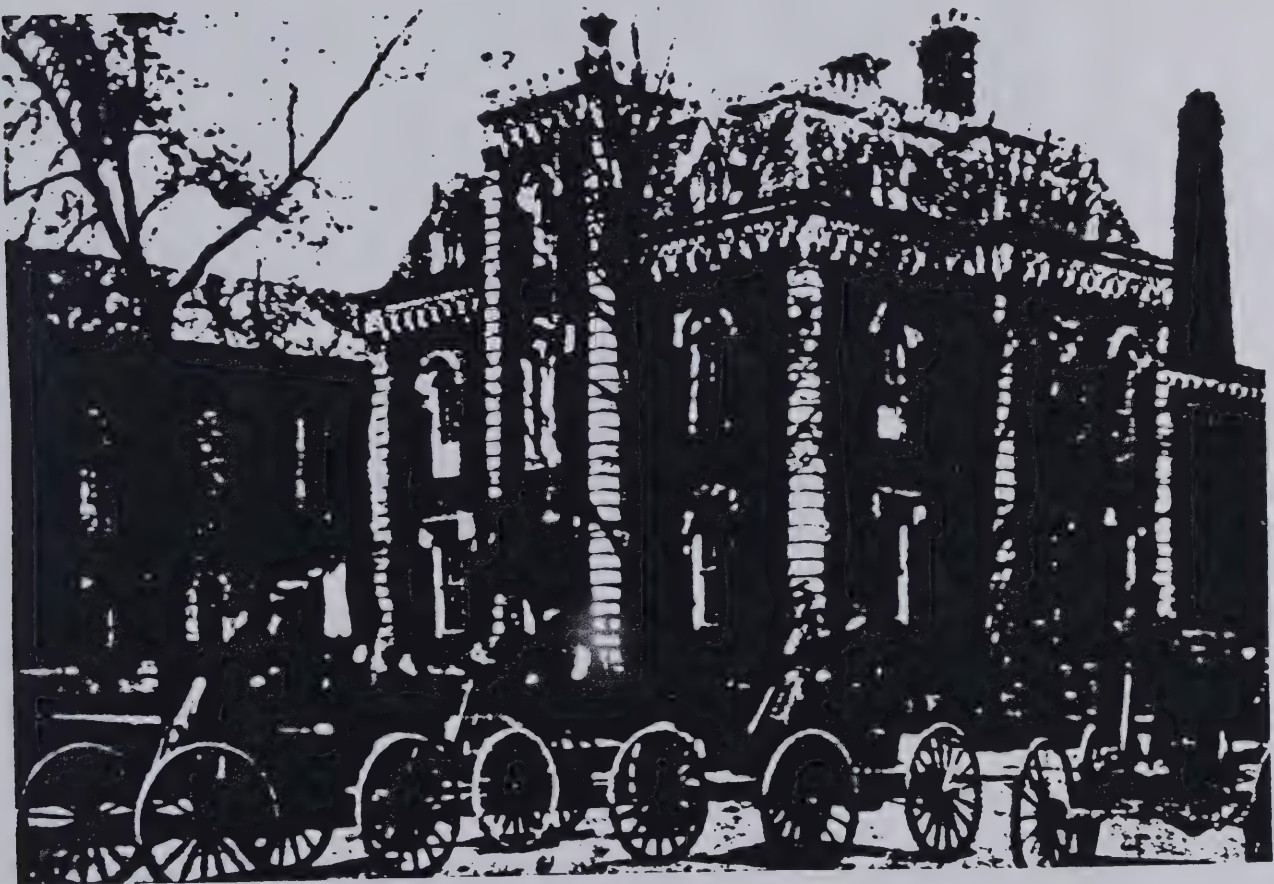


sickles, mowing scythes, mauls and wedges, wooden plows, and harrows made of forked limbs. These poor old pioneers that have the ribbons on their breast paved the way for the present improved condition of the county. They were educated in the old log school houses, the teachers receiving ten or twelve dollars a month. Is the present generation thankful to us old pioneer?

Miss McIntyre recited "How Brown got his hair cut" as the closing exercise.

THE AUBURN DISPATCH----28 June 1900----Page 1 - Col. 5,6,& 7

\*\*\*\*\*



**OLD JAIL:** Built in 1875 by James R. Duncan, William Crane, and Harmon Lydecker of Waterloo at a cost of \$28,647. It was equipped with triple gates and the latest Scandinavian locks. The structure was of the classical Italianate Architecture. The height to the top of the tower was forty-five feet. A mansard roof covered the residence portion and a flat tin roof covered the jail portion. It contained twelve 7'x 9' cells. The building was located on the southeast corner of the public square and remained there for several years after the present courthouse was built. It was razed in 1919 after the new jail was completed.



SOLOMON AND MARTHA (ECKHART) REINOEHL and children  
Mary Alice, Job Albert, Cora Rebecca, Isaiah Oziah,  
William Elmer, Charles Myron, Rosa Viola, Hester Nora.

## OLD SETTLERS MEETING

### Of DeKalb County Will be Held at St. Joe This Year

Old Settlers meeting will be held at St. Joe, June 20, 1901. In response to call of J.M. Lockhart, president of the Old Settlers Association, Vice-President O.H. Widney and other old settlers met at Widney's opera house, to perfect arrangements necessary for the success and comfort of all who may attend. We expect to make this the best meeting ever held in the county. Meeting to be held in Widney's opera house. Good music, free coffee, short speeches and a good time is expected. All are invited, Resolutions were passed to extend an invitation to the Houghton Old Settlers association to attend. The following committies were appointed: On speaker, R.M. Lockhart; on program, S.L. Widney, B.A. Hadsell, and J.W. Dills; on music, Marshall Hadsell, M.T. Bishop, and C.A. Woodcox; on decoration, O.H. Widney, J.C. Hull, W.C. Patterson, Mrs. Abner Copp, and Mrs. DeLora Curie; on finance M.T. Bishop, Alex Filley and Frank Scholes; on entertainment, B.S. Sheffer, D.J. Barker, H.W. Bowman, B.F. Barney, J.K. Stafford, Mahlon Baker, Mrs. Ed. Leighty, Mrs. Isaac Meese and Mrs. J.R. Culbertson.

R.M. Lockhart, President

Sol. Barney, Secretary.

AUBURN COURIER-----9 May 1901-----Page 2 - Col. 1

\*\*\*\*\*

#### OLD SETTLERS AT ST. JOE

#### **Rain Keeps Some Away, But Does Not Destroy Interest in Meeting**

#### Special Telegram to the Courier

ST. JOE, IND., June 20,--The annual meeting of the old settlers of DeKalb county is in session here today. The City is beautifully decorated, about 500 people, including members of the association are present, and every one seems enthused with the spirit of the occasion. The inclement weather has doubtless kept away many intending visitors, but it has in no way detracted from the interest of the meeting.

#### Morning Session

The morning session was called to order at 10:30 by R. M. Lockhart, president, and after the blessings of the Divine Father had been invoked by Jonathon Boyle and a quartette of tensful voices had rendered a beautiful song, the Hon. J.M. Robinson, of Fort Wayne, was introduced and gave a very interesting talk. During the course of his talk Mr. Robinson paid many compliments to the ladies, and the manner in which they had acquitted themselves in the upbuilding of



the association.

B.A. Hadsell followed with a very practical talk on the wonderful changes that have come about during the lives of those old people. He alluded to the schools, transportation, dress, religion, social gatherings, families, buildings, agricultural implements, etc.

The president then introduced two Mr. Houltons, the sons of the first settler of DeKalb county, who were present,

Gen. L.J. Blair of Waterloo recited Sheridan's Ride, followed by reminiscences.

#### Afternoon Session.

The hall is more than filled, probably 800 people present.

The first on the program is a male quartette, which was extra fine.

President Lockhart then made a few remarks, and introduced Judge S.A. Powers, of Angola, who is well acquainted with the people in the audience on account of once having been a candidate for office in DeKalb county. Judge Powers related several incidents, all of which were very interesting and his audience was held in rapt attention during his entire talk.

President Lockhart suggested that DeKalb county should place a monument on the place where John Houlton built the first house in DeKalb county, and a committee will be appointed to agitate that matter.

The following officers were elected:

R.M. Lockhart, president; B.A. Hadsell, vice-president; J.A. Boyer, treasurer; Jonas Dilgard, secretary; biographer, O.H. Taylor; executive committee, one member from each township in the county.

It was decided that the next meeting be held at Waterloo.

Among the oldest members present are John Wyatt, Jackson township, 90; Jonathan Boyle, R.G. Daniels, Smithfield; Mrs. Barclay, Auburn; Jacob Gunsenhouser, Wilmington township.

Much praise is due the citizens of St. Joe for the hospitable manner in which the old settlers have been entertained today, and they are enthusiastic in their praise for this treatment.

AUBURN COURIER-----27 June 1901-----Page 1 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE YEAR'S DEAD OF THE PIONEERS

Those Who Have Gone to Their Reward  
Since Last Reunion

At the St. Joe reunion there was not time to get a list

of these who had died in the past year, nor of the vice-presidents selected. But by the kindness of the secretary we are enabled to give the list as nearly complete as he has it. All who were born in the county or came into it from outside counties or states as early as 1846 are classed as "pioneers." All who have become residents of the county between 1846 and 1861 are classed as "old settlers" under the by-laws of the association. So all deaths during the year are reported under these two heads.

The report of the biographer, on deaths for the past year or since the last meeting is as follows:

#### PIONEERS

James Bowman	Christina Fair
Elias Kepler	John Leighty
Mrs. Hannah E. Brown	Philip Fluke
Mrs. H. Hinman	Mrs. Eliza Feagler
Mrs. J.R. Boren	Mrs. Jacob Dermott
Chas Comeskey	Perry E. Griffin
Geo B. McMillen	Mrs. Orrin Clark
Mrs. M.J. McClellan	Isaac H. Getts
Mrs. Thomas Hamman	Peter Bishop
Mrs. John Beidler	Mrs. Mary Bratton
Mrs. James Kelley	Mrs. Isaac Norris
Mrs. Margaret Campbell	

#### Old Settlers:

Mrs. Eliza Beaber	Mrs. Sarah Jackman
John W. Hamman	Wm. Topper
Frank Kennedy	Leander F. Stamets
Mrs. Phil Plum	Wm. Summerlot
Mrs. D.D. Knisely	Wm E. Rush
Wm. F. Sherwood	Samuel Mortorff
Baltzer Stahl	Jacob Lochner
Susannah Burtzner	Hiram Barnhart
Mrs. M.M. Boyer	Eli Bensinger
John R. Boren	John W. Parmerton
Jacob Showalter	Capt. Munger
Theodore Wyatt	John W. Boyle
Walter Krise	

There are always several others who are not reported;; to the biographer, and there have been several omissions to report in the past year, but it is not now likely that they will be recorded. We again urge on our people, as we do each year, to report the deaths of either class, pioneers or old settlers, to the biographer or even to the secretary if he is more convenient.

It is the rule in the Association to elect at each annual meeting one vice-president from each township, who are to be the executive committee for the coming year. Those chosen this year are:

TOWNSHIPS:

Butler.....	W. H. Fair
Concord.....	Samuel Widney
Fairfield.....	P.D. Childs
Franklin.....	Balis Boyer
Grant.....	H.K. Leas
Jackson.....	James Provines
Keyser.....	Orrin Clark
Newville.....	G.F. DeLong
Richland.....	G.I. Patterson
Smithfield.....	J.E. Thomason
Stafford.....	Henry Gunsenhouse
Troy.....	Willard Eddy
Union.....	A.J. Ralston
Wilmington.....	W.L. Blair

AUBURN COURIER-----27 June 1901-----Page 1 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*



## Old Settlers' Meeting

### (Waterloo Dawn)

R.M. Lockhart, president of the old settlers' meeting informs us that arrangements are being perfected to make the old settlers' meeting this year one of the best ever held in the county. The meeting place will be in the school house park in Waterloo, June 19. For speakers, Judge Bowersox of Bryan, Ohio, Hon. C.C. Gilhams of Lagrange, and Congressman Robinson have accepted invitations to speak and will be present. There will be all kinds of music and different kinds of fun.

The following committee has been appointed and it is hoped that they will aid in making this meeting a grand success:

Butler . . . . .	Albert Thrush
Concord . . . . .	Hon. S.S. Shutt
Fairfield . . . . .	P.D. Childs
Franklin . . . . .	W.C. Houlton
} . . . . .	R.N. Crooks
Grant    } . . . . .	Henry Hood
Jackson . . . . .	Alexander Provines
} . . . . .	Chas Camp
Keyser   } . . . . .	O.C. Clark
Newville . . . . .	Benj. Blair
Richland . . . . .	Daniel Thomas
Smithfield . . . . .	Joel E. Thompson
Stafford . . . . .	Robert Arford
Troy . . . . .	Jerre McClintock
} . . . . .	M.B. Willis
Union    } . . . . .	J.E. Pomeroy
} . . . . .	N. Moore
Wilmington } . . . . .	Aaron Moore

The officers for the association are:

R.M. Lockhart . . . . .	President
Oliver Widney . . . . .	Vice President
J.E. Dilgard . . . . .	Secretary
Sol Barney . . . . .	Treasurer
Oscar Taylor . . . . .	Biographer

THE AUBURN DISPATCH-----29 May 1902----Page 1 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE OLD SETTLERS

#### Of DeKalb County Met in Annual Reunion at Waterloo

The old settlers' reunion at Waterloo, Thursday June 19, was one of the most successful and enjoyable reunions of this organization held in years. Although the attendance was not large in the forenoon on account of busy farm work, in the afternoon there was a large concourse of people, many more than could be seated. The reunion was held in the school

house park, a beautiful and shady place for gatherings. The stand was erected and seats prepared under the supervision of R.M. Lockhart, the president of the organization who never tires in working for the best interest and accommodation of any gathering of people or organization with which he is connected. Tables were arranged and hot coffee donated for the accommodation of those who brought their picnic dinners from home.

At 11 o'clock the proceedings were opened with music by the popular ladies band of Waterloo, after which the president called the meeting to order and introduced Rev. Klotz who led in prayer. The President explained arrangements for the accommodation of those who took dinner in the grove and after the secretary read the roll of township committeemen, requested the committee to meet immediately after dinner and select the officers and committeemen and also the place of meeting in 1903. L.J. Blair, of Waterloo, the oldest settler in the county, was called to stand by the president and addressed the meeting, followed by B.A. Hadsell of Concord. At the conclusion of Mr. Hadsell's address adjournment took place for our hour.

The afternoon session was opened with a selection by the band, followed with a chorus of twenty young ladies, and then a quartet composed of ladies belonging to the band.

Judge C.A. Bowersox Bryon, Ohio, also a pioneer, was the principal speaker for the occasion and his address was intensely interesting especially to the pioneers. Among other interesting reminiscences he spoke of the religious enthusiasm of the pioneer christians who would go to night meetings afoot several miles away through roadless forests by the light of hickory bark torches singing and shouting by the way. He contrasted those days with present conditions and surroundings. Now country people go to church if only a short distance, in fine buggies on good roads all dressed in store clothes. In pioneer days ladies would go to meeting in log cabins, dressed in home-spun clothing, wearing sun bonnets, and would often times go barefooted through mud and swamps until they came in sight of the meeting place when they would stop and put on their shoes and the stockings they knit themselves.

After the conclusion of the Judge's address Hon. C.C. Gilhams of La Grange was called upon and gave an interesting speech, taking for his subject "The Pioneer." Mr. Gilhams is also a fluent speaker and his discourse was in line and befitting the occasion.

The committee on arrangements for the reunion in 1903 through their chairman, Wm. Blair, submitted the following report:

#### OFFICERS.

President, Wm. L. Blair, Wilmington,  
Vice Pres., B.A. Hadsell, Concord  
Secretary, J.E. Dilgard, Grant  
Biographer, O.H. Taylor, Franklin

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEEMEN.

Butler . . . . .	Philip Noel
Jackson . . . . .	James Provines
Concord . . . . .	O.H. Widney
Newville . . . . .	George DeLong
Stafford . . . . .	Stewart Wartenbee
)	Aaron Moore
Wilmington ) . . . . .	F.W. Nimmons
Union . . . . .	Geo. W. Gordon
Grant . . . . .	M. Kiplinger
Keyser . . . . .	E.E. Clark
Richland . . . . .	Daniel Thomas
Fairfield . . . . .	P.D. Childs
Smithfield . . . . .	I.N. Cox
Franklin . . . . .	Allen Shultz
Troy . . . . .	Jerry McClintock

Butler was selected as the place for the reunion in 1903. On motion the report was unanimously adopted.

In reference to the Houlton monument that is proposed to be erected in memory of John Houlton, the first settler in DeKalb county, the president read the proceedings of the committee at the Houlton reunion September 11, 1901 and asked the pleasure of the old settlers and what action they desired to take. On motion of L.J. Blair the present committee was continued with instructions to complete the monumental organization and report progress at the next reunion at Butler in 1903.

Adjourned to meet at Butler the third Thursday in June 1903.

THE AUBURN DISPATCH-----26 June 1902-----Page 1 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*





**ALEXANDER PROVINES:** He was a conversationalist, a genial, social friend, and is esteemed by all with whom he comes in contact. It has been his habit form many years to keep a daily record of temperature and rain and snow fall, and in extremes of heat or cold an hourly observbation from sun to sun.

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

### The Pioneers of DeKalb County will Convene at Butler.

The annual meeting of the Old Settlers of DeKalb Co. will be held at Butler June 18th. An excellent program is under preparation and the people of Butler are making every preparation and promise one of the best meetings ever held in the county. Should the weather be bad the exercises will be held in the M.E. Church.

J.E. Dilgard,  
Secy.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----11 June 1903-----Page 1 - Col. 2

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS

### They Will Hold Their Annual Meeting at Butler.

The Old Settler's Association of DeKalb county will meet at Butler, June 18.

The place of meeting will be Green street on the grounds between the residences of T.J. Knisely and Dr. Harrison.

Promptly at 10 a.m. the citizens, visitors and members of the association will form a line of march in front of opera house, and headed by the Butler band, precede to the grove where they will register and receive their badges,

The following is the program for the occasion:

Song--America . . . . . Quartett  
Star Quartett and Entire Assembly.  
Invocation . . . . . Rev. Dr. Frech  
Song . . . . . Star Quartett  
Address of Welcome . . . . . President  
Appointment of Committees.  
Song . . . . . Mrs. W. Husselman  
The Dead of 1903 . . . Oscar Taylor, Waterloo  
Adjourn for refreshments.

CONVENE AT 1:20 p.m.

Music by the band.

Report of Committees.

Duet . . . . . Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Oberlin

Song . . . . . Quartett

Address . . . . . Hon. Stephen A. Powers

Song . . . . . Star Quartett

Short Talk . . . . . Gen'l Blair

Recitation--"How Grandma Used to

.....Done

Recitation--"I Know What It Is,"

Talks by Old Settlers

A Talk from the Wild Man from the Isles of the

Pacific Ocean.

Ample accommodation will be provided for those wishing to bring their own lunch. Hot coffee, cream and sugar will be

served on the grounds "free" during the noon hour.

Should the day prove unfavorable the M.E. Church has been secured for the exercises.

W.L. Blair,  
President.

\*\*\*\*\*



## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

The Old Settlers' of DeKalb County will hold their annual meeting in this city in the public square, Thursday June 16. A fine program has been prepared for the occasion and a large crowd will no doubt be present. The forenoon session will be called to order at 10:30 by the President who will be followed by prayer by Rev. L.M. Krider. The remainder of the forenoon session will then be taken up with the reports of the several officers and committees after which the meeting will adjourn until 1:30 p.m.

The afternoon session will be opened by song by the Glee Club, followed by an address by W.H. McIntosh, short speeches by Old Settlers, report of the biographer, report of Committee to nominate officers, election of officers, song by Glee Club and benediction by Rev. A.H. Brand.

Every citizen of Auburn should turn out and help to make this one of the best Old Settlers' days ever held in this county.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----16 June 1904-----Page 1 - Col. 5

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS

### Pioneers of DeKalb Meet and Have a Grand Time.

Thursday morning was cool and there were signs of rain. At eleven o'clock, but few of the pioneers were present and it was freely talked that the meeting would be like the one we had here on the old school park a few years ago, which was a failure in point of numbers. But soon afternoon there was a "revival of business." And when the Auburn band woke the echoes of the court house park, there was a good crowd present.

O.H. Widney, was president M.B. Willis being absent in Oklahoma. Prayer was offered by Mr. Kryder, and the Lutheran choir, under the leadership of Dr. Minkler, sang an excellent song, Mrs. John Kruger acting as organist.

Mr. McIntosh then delivered the principal address, a masterly one, that received many compliments. It will be published in the papers.

Then came short speeches by several old settlers, including W.L. Blair of Butler, Gen. Blair of Waterloo, R.M. Lockhart of Waterloo.

Mr. Lockhart as chairman of the committee to nominate officers and choose a location for next year, reported St. Joe as the place and for officers, O.H. Widney for president; R.M. Lockhart for vice-president; W.C. Patterson of St. Joe for secretary; J.D. Leighty for treasurer; Philip Noel of Butler township for biographer. The township vice-presidents of last year are continued for the next.

Morris Widney then sang one of his inimitable bass solos, "I'm as young as I used to be." He was heartily

cheered.

The choir sang another song and the meeting closed with a prayer by Mr. Brand of the Presbyterian church.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----23 June 1904-----Page 1 - Col. 7

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS MEETING

The old settlers will convene at St. Joe, June, 15th next. Program and arrangements are made for the largest meeting of the kind ever held in DeKalb county. Everybody keep this meeting in mind and come out and dedicate one day to the memories of the brave old heroes as this is the Historical grounds of the first settlements of our county. Plenty of Indian graves visible now. Come out and give one day in commemoration of the fathers and mother who paved the way that has made us a great and happy people.

AUBURN COURIER-----11 May 1905-----Page 4 - Col. 3 also  
1 June 1905-----Page 8 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Pioneer Association of DeKalb County will be held at Widney's Opera House, in St. Joe, Indiana, Thursday, June 15, 1905.

### PROGRAM

10:30	Registration of Old Settlers Called to Order by the President Song--America .....St. Joe Choir Prayer.....W. C. Patterson Song--Mother's Song (Medley)..St. Joe Choir Address of Welcome.....Sol Farney Reading of Secretary's report Report of Biographer Report of Treasurer Appointment of Committees to recommend officers for the ensuing year Appointment of Committees for Place of Holding Next Meeting Adjournment to 1:30 p.m.
1:30	Song--When I Can Read My Title Clear (as sung 60 years ago) Address.....William L. Blair Short Talks by Old Settlers Report of Committees

The citizens of St. Joe and vicinity will do everything in their power to make the meeting a success and extend to all a cordial invitation to attend. Bring well filled baskets. Hot tea and coffee will be furnished free to all.

W.C. Patterson,  
Secretary.

O.H. Widney,  
President.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----8 June 1905-----Page 1 - Cols.5 & 6

\*\*\*\*\*



## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

The annual meeting of the Old Settlers of DeKalb county will be held in the Hamilton grove on the banks of Fish Creek in Franklin township Sept. 4, 1906; six miles north of Butler and over two miles southeast of Hamilton. The meeting this year will be in connection with the Houlton family reunion which is held each year on this date in commemoration of the date on which the first log cabin was erected by John Houlton and wife on Sept. 4th 1833, nearly three years prior to the coming to this county of any other white person. A number of good speakers have been procured for the occasion and it is expected that a most enjoyable time will be had.

R.M. Lockhart, Pres.

H.K. Leas, Sec'y.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER----- 21 June 1906 ----- Page 1 - Col 2

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' REUNION

### A Gala Day at the Home of the Houltons in Franklin Township

When John Houlton blazed his way into the deep, dim forests of northeastern Indiana with an ox team seventy years ago, he could have no thought, no conception, no dream of the scene that presented itself yesterday at his old home in Franklin township. As he wrought amid the trees to establish a home, with his next door neighbor ten miles away, and but few at that, he measured not the importance of his work to the coming generations, but in his simple, unselfish purpose strove to clear the way for a future home, and find shelter for him and his faithful wife even amid the silence and gloom of an unbroken forest.

Soon the log cabin went up, with the aid of two or three of his near neighbors, and a spot was opened in the dense growth of forest trees, where he planted the first seeds in modest amount the harvest of which might sustain them while further development was being made. And from that time on the sturdy pioneers, inured to hardships and privations kept up the work that was to make us a great and prosperous nation.

In a conversation with Mr. E.M. Coll of Troy township, who came into the neighborhood in 1838 with his parents and uncle, he told of the two-horse team that brought them from the far east, and with which they began their new career in the wilderness. He mentioned an instance where the team started to Cleveland, O., to get the balance of their household goods that had been left behind. On their return one of the horses died, and the other was traded for a yoke of oxen with which to complete the trip. It required twenty-one days in those times to make this journey. They made,

maple sugar in January and February in early times in quantities sufficient to supply the household during the year, and often have some to exchange for groceries, for which they had to go to Toledo and Fort Wayne.

The occasion was sort of a combination celebration--the meeting of the old settlers' society, of which Hon. R.M. Lockhart of Waterloo, is President and J.K. Lease, Secretary, both of whom were present, and the annual reunion of the John Houlton family, which is bound to meet the fourth of every September, rain or shine. One of the most beautiful groves in the state, preserved by the foresight of that more than ordinarily intelligent pioneer, is within a few rods of the house, and its splendid carpet of green, its cool shade from towering oak, beech, maple and elm. Makes it a most delightful resort for neighbors far and near as well as the immediate kinship of the man to the memory of whom they pay homage in this beautiful, tender way.

And this recurrence of the occasion was more than usually attractive, for it was an ideal September day, with a clear sky and a moderate temperature and the attendance was greatly in excess of former gatherings. The conveniences for the enjoyment of the people were excellent. Seats were provided for all who usually sit at public meetings, a good stage erected with a fine piano thereon, and, oh, the spread of good things such as mother used to cook, were outlined to the vision at the noon hour, and it was not long until they inclined many an appreciative stomach, and there was an abundance for all. Is it a fancy, a delusion, or is it fact, that food provided for the nourishment of the body on these occasion is always better, more tasteful, and gets closer to the gastric appreciation than on any other known on earth? Well, that is the way not only I, but hundreds looked at it "after the ball was over," bawl for more spring chicken, pies, cakes, jellies, fruits, in fact everything that one rarely finds in a hotel.

Then came the literary features of the occasion interspersed with delightful music. The fine Butler band was there to regale all with their enlivening strains and the piano responded grandly to the touch of those who know how to draw out its sweetest melodies. Two ladies rendered a duet that simply caught the assemblage, and the applause was great, and there was an encore given, which they could not at that time respond to.

President Lockhart introduced that early pioneer, W.M. Blair of Butler, who, though indisposed, entertained his audience with early reminiscences and references to the individuality of those strenuous times. After short talks from others, Judge C.A. Bowersox of Bryan was introduced, and of all the telling speeches of that early day record, of serious trials and hardships endured that this present day development might be made, of incidents, not by field and flood, but in the great primeval forest, told in his strong, winsome voice, with a humor that alternately sent his hearers to laughter and to tears, he charmed and captivated all within his hearing. He knew the life of years ago and could touch the vibrant cords of the heart of those who had toiled

and struggled with him.

Then followed Hon. C.C. Gilham of Lagrange, who with his clear, resonant voice caught the attention of the audience, whom he entertained by recounting scenes of the early life, and descanting upon the firmness and character of our forebears, whose rude life not only developed the rudiments of farming, but made them God-fearing, honest, helpful citizens.

And thus ended another of those royal days of the year, so full of joy and pleasure that none pay heed to any time or trouble that may be required to prepare for the same.

I want to return thanks to Mrs. Lewis Houlton for her special kindness and courtesy in seeing that the newspaper man was provided with a sumptuous repast which he enjoyed to the full.

It was good fortune that fated me to form one of a quartet that went to Houlton yesterday behind a good livery rig, going by Waterloo and returning by Butler. There was Ralph Thomas, one whom, if elected, will make a crackerjack sheriff. There was Milt Clark, who is headed for the court house as county commissioner, who held the reins and showed by skillful driving that anything placed in his hands will receive due care and attention and lastly but not least, was Frank Scholes of St. Joe who was a most intelligent entertainer and showed plainly that he would make a most excellent county surveyor. Tom.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----6 September 1906----Page 4 - col 1 & 2

\*\*\*\*\*





**LEWIS AND RHODA CAROLINE (MARTIN) HOULTON:** Son of John and Nancy, of Franklin Townshuip. Resided on the home place all of his life, engaged in farming.

## OLD SETTLERS' MEETING

The committee selected for the old settlers' meeting to be held in Waterloo, June 20, consisting of the following named persons: F.W. Willis, G.T. Abbey, R.M. Lockhart, Fred Waterman, Andrew Duncan and James E. Rose, met in Waterloo Friday and completed arrangements for the meeting. The following committees were named:

On seating and stand for the speaker, Michael Kiplinger, Charles Bartlett, and Theodore Imhoff; on music, C.R. Reed, Wm. Blair of Butler, and M.K. Houlton of Franklin; on finance, H.K. Leas, Fred Waterman and Andrew Duncan; on entertainment, G.T. Abbey; on registration and badges for old settlers, R.M. Lockhart.

The forenoon will be spent principally in visiting. It is expected that all will come prepared to enjoy dinner on the grounds and the committee on entertainment will see that tables are prepared for the purpose and good hot coffee will be furnished to all who desire it.

At one o'clock the meeting will be called to order by the president and a welcome address will be given by Hon. F.W. Willis which will be responded to by President Rose.

The names of several prominent speakers for the occasion were presented and the matter was placed in the hands of the

president to secure one or more.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----2 May 1907-----Page 1 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

## PIONEER JUBILEE

### For DeKalb County in September

Mention was made in the columns of The Courier about a preliminary meeting held in the court room Saturday afternoon for the purpose of arranging for a Pioneer Jubilee to be held in Auburn this fall. The date of the jubilee has been set for September 12, 1907, and any one who came to DeKalb county prior to January 1, 1847 is classed as a pioneer. The meeting Saturday organized by electing the following officers:

W.L. Blair . . . . .	President
A.J. Ralston . . . . .	Vice president
Isaac Hogue . . . . .	Secretary
Isaac Gunsenhouser . . . . .	Treasurer

An executive committee was appointed to make and carrying out the arrangement consisting of the following persons: O.J. Widney, A.J. Ralston, Wm. Carr, Hugh Culbertson and J.E. Rose.

The president will visit each township in the county and get a list of the pioneers, invitations will be issued to participate in the jubilee and a program prepared. It is

planned to raise enough money with which to give the pioneers a good old fashioned dinner and make the day one of joy and pleasure for those who braved the savages and bore the hardships incident to settling a new country.

THE AUBURN COURIER----1 August 1907----Page 4 - Cols. 5 & 6

\*\*\*\*\*

### PIONEER MEET

The pioneers of DeKalb county will have a meeting at Auburn on Thursday, September 12. It is hoped that all who have lived in DeKalb county since January 1, 1847, and are now living in the county will be present at the meeting. A free dinner will be furnished to all the pioneers who attend.

In order to enable the committee to make proper arrangements, it is desired that all the pioneers of the county who will attend the meeting notify Isaac Hague, secretary, of their purpose so to do. That notice should be given as soon as possible so that the committee may make preparations.

COMMITTEE.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----29 August 1907-----Page 2 - Col. 2

\*\*\*\*\*

### PIONEERS MEET

#### Old Settlers of DeKalb County Meet in Celebration in Public Square.

The old settlers of DeKalb county were very much in evidence in Auburn, Thursday. The day was ideal for an outdoor entertainment and the men and women who braved the red men and cleared the forests of long ago began to arrive early.

They needed no badges to distinguish them from those younger in years who now enjoy along with the old settlers, the fruits of the labors of the men and women of the forties and fifties. Most of these pioneers are bent with the weight of years and they bear evidence of having bravely met the hardships of the early days. They are ripe in years of experience and today they had a wealth of incidents interesting to talk about. The program included speeches and reminiscences and stories of the good old times. A full account of the day's meeting will be given Friday.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER----19 September 1907----Page 1 - Col. 8

\*\*\*\*\*



## PIONEER MEETING

### The Men and Women of Early Days Have Interesting Meeting

The pioneers of DeKalb county had a very successful meeting in the Court House square of Auburn, Thursday afternoon. The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Wm. Blair of Butler, after which Rev. Brown asked an invocation.

The welcome address was delivered by Judge James E. Rose. He said in part:

"I am glad that I am a pioneer, glad that I knew and participated in the enjoyable experience of those who had the courage and ability to brave the dangers of the olden times which helped in the building up of the present generation. I am glad that we have the pleasure of welcoming the pioneers to our city. I say our city. It is a labor and industry of the people of the county that makes the city. The farmer and the merchant are mutually dependent upon each other and mutually contribute to each others happiness, and of course this makes this city yours as well as mine, yours because of the product of the labor and ours because of the start we gave it. The people of Auburn and DeKalb county are glad that you are with us today. The pioneer was willing to earn his part by the sweat of his own brow, there are no grafters. Among the pioneers honest, industry and regard for the welfare of all pervaded. We call those pioneers who were living in Jan. 1, 1847, and have continued living in the county up to this time. At that early date much had been done by the early settlers to make the country a much more desirable place than in 1835 or 1836.

He spoke of the many hardships that the early pioneers went through.

Following Mr. Rose there was a response by Hon. Frank W. Willis of Waterloo.

After welcoming the people, he gave some reasons why this welcome had been extended to us that it might be well to recall some of the incidents of days long gone by.

The pioneers of this county were among the sturdy class of people that marked out the pathway for the future generation. There are three things that enter into the work of man. They are heredity, environment and opportunity. There may be in this day of rush and progress a good many that will think that some of the early pioneers, who were self-made to a great degree, have made of themselves a very poor job but never-the less the pioneer was the forerunner of that which was to be. The heredity that came with him was that which was imparted to him across the sea. The pioneers opened the way of prosperity for the coming generations which we today are enjoying. Some of these people here Thursday were quite young in the pioneer life.

Among other things he said that he could remember when they had no screens to the windows and doors. Flies were about as abundant as they are now. He spoke of the pumpkins which was one of the best friends of pioneers in the early days. He said they used to slice them into round thins

slices and hang them up around the kitchen, and the pies that mother used to make could not be beat. They were the richest and the best. He spoke of having no rubber boots, and how they used to have tallow in the skillet with which to blacken their boots. He said they had no department stores; or mail-order houses in which to spend their money, of which they had little. He spoke of the dress of that time, of how the women used to weave it, etc. He recited an amusing incident of Old Uncle Zeke. He also said that while now we had 350,000 miles of railroad, then they only had 300.

Short speeches were made by different ones about the old pioneer. Mr. Dyer Matthews spoke of several amusing incidents, among which was the spelling. Mr. Robert Lockhart of Waterloo also favored the people with a short address.

The brother of Mr. Blair also spoke. He told of the spelling school. Among other things that related to the wilderness of that time he said he thought the mosquitoes were worse than the wolves and bears.

Mr. Blair then exhibited the first white male child born in DeKalb county---Mr. James Platter. He is a very large man and certainly has his growth, but Mr. Blair said he was only a child and was still growing and expected to be a man some day. After another short address by Mr. Blair the meeting adjourned.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER----19 September 1907----Page 2 - Col. 1

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MORE ABOUT PIONEERS**

#### **Judge James E. Rose's Address of Welcome in Full.**

#### **Names of Old Settlers.**

The Courier published Saturday the welcome address of James E. Rose to the pioneers of DeKalb county in full. Our reporter took down a verbatim report of the proceedings in full but it was too voluminous for one issue of our paper. In the daily of Friday we gave in outline the proceedings of the day and will give in detail the speeches and some of the reminiscences related of the early day. We also publish a list of the early settlers with their date of settlement, and will add their names as they are handed us.

Judge Rose's address follows:

I am glad that I am a pioneer; glad that I knew and participated in the enjoyable experience of those who had the courage, industry and enterprise to enter the wilderness, braved its dangers and suffered its privations in order that they might contribute to the making of the beautiful country that we see all about us.

"I am glad that I have the pleasure of welcoming the pioneers of DeKalb county to our city, I say "our city" for the reason that I live here, but it is your city as well as mine; it is the labor, perseverance, economy and industry of



the people of the country that makes the city a possibility and necessity. It is the labor and consequent thrift of the farmer that makes the necessity for the city and its business, and business men; where the conveniences for the farm may be had in exchange for the products of the farm. The farmer and the merchant and the professional man are mutually dependent on each other, and mutually contribute to each others happiness and prosperity; hence I say this is your city as well as ours. Yours because by the products of your labor you aided in making and now aid in maintaining it. I would tender to you the keys to the city but for the reason that there are none--the gates of Auburn are always open to admit the good people of DeKalb county, and the people of Auburn always enjoy greeting and visiting with them, and I wish to assure you that the people of this city are glad you are with us today.

"I said that I am glad I knew of and participated in the experiences of pioneer life--what we called pleasures then, and what we look back to in our reflection of pioneer life, as pleasures would perhaps, not be regarded as pleasures by the present generation. In pioneer days hard labor in reducing the wilderness to tillable fields, with a comfortable home in view as the incentive to labor made the severest toil a pleasure. The prospect of a home and a farm cut out of almost impenetrable forest, induced the pioneer to enter the wilderness, brave its dangers and suffer its privations and nerved and strengthened his arm and directed his hand while laboring to attain that result. The pioneer was willing to earn his bread by the sweat of his own brow--he did not attempt, or desire, to appropriate to his own use the products of the unrequited toil of another. There were no grafters in pioneer days. Grafting is one of the fine arts of modern times. Among the pioneers honesty and industry and a solicitous regard for the welfare of others were cardinal virtues which all possessed and practiced and I am pleased to say that with a majority of the people of the present day those virtues predominate: The industry, frugality and economy in living of the pioneer, brought to them ability to perform labor, which to the men of the present generation seems almost incredible, and gave to their children the glow of health and conscious honesty that I see depicted in the countenances of the pioneers that I see before me today.

"We call all these pioneers who were in the county on January 1, 1847, and have continuously lived in the county ever since. At that early date much had been done by the earliest settlers to make the county a much more desirable place in which to live, than when those who came in 1835-1836, farms had been cleared, post routes established, stores started at Newville, Orangeville, Spencerville and Auburn, the Indians had been removed from the county by the Federal Government, the hunters had lessened the danger from wild animals, highways had been laid out, many of the roads through the swamps had been made passable by the building of cordoroy bridges, schools had been established and churches built, but the pioneer yet cut his wheat with sickle or



cradle and his grass with a scythe, he did his work with ox teams, and marketed his grain at Defiance or Fort Wayne.

"I am pleased to note that through the result of your labor and continuous and persevering effort such changes have been wrought in DeKalb county: that those who are now enjoying the result of your labor in pioneer days, have the conveniences of the present day, and am also pleased to know, that when the active business man of today can take time from the activities of the posh and hurry of the modern business life to think of the pioneer, he feels and expresses gratitude to the old pioneer for his pleasant surroundings.

"Pioneers, again on behalf of the people of Auburn, I welcome you to this pretty little city. It is yours."

List of Pioneers:

<u>Name and Place</u> <u>of birth</u>	<u>Time of</u> <u>birth</u>	<u>Date</u> <u>Settlement</u>
<u>FAIRFIELD</u>		
Josiah C. Wells, Ohio	1829	1844
<u>STAFFORD</u>		
Jacob Christoffle, Ohio	1842	1842
Henry Grube, Ohio	1842	1843
G.W. Webster, DeKalb	1846	1846
<u>SMITHFIELD</u>		
David Goodrich, N.Y.	1838	1840
Sophia Farrington, Ohio	1843	1846
<u>UNION</u>		
George Moore, Ohio	1816	1840
Mathias Cupp, Ohio	1837	1842
John M. Thomas, Ohio	1836	1842
Julia Mott Hodge, Indiana	1837	1843
Mrs. L.E. Ditmar, N.Y.	1840	1844
<u>TROY</u>		
E.M. Coll, Vermont	1837	1838
Anna Jennings, Michigan	1836	1839
Mr. J. Aldrich, Troy	1841	1841
Phoebe Coll, Ohio	1832	1843
L.J. Aldrich, Troy	1843	1843
Wm. Jennings, Ohio	1835	1843
<u>FRANKLIN</u>		
Mary Sewell, N.Y.	1836	1838
Lucy Funk, N.Y.	1837	1838
Josiah Neidig, Ohio	1829	1839
Balis Boyer, Ohio	1840	1840
Wm. Houlton, DeKalb	1842	1842
Eliza Thomas, DeKalb	1843	1843
Wm. Oberlin, Ohio	1828	1845
Anna Hammond, Ohio	1831	1846

	<u>KEYSER</u>	
Michael Whetsel, Penn.	1813	1837
John Bell, Michigan	1833	1837
Mr. M. Whetsel, N.Y.	1823	1841
Adam Carper, DeKalb	1742 ?	1842
Mary Mead, Ohio	1840	1844
Eli W. Shull, DeKalb	1845	1845
Daniel Wyatt, DeKalb	1845	1845
John Olinger, Ohio	1837	1846

	<u>RICHLAND</u>	
G.B. Monroe, Ohio	1841	1836 ?
Mary Green, N.Y.	1827	1837
Anna Coy, Ohio	1834	1841
Jane DeLong, Canada	1838	1841
I. Monroe, Penn.	1835	1844
Lizzie Wasson, DeKalb	1844	1844
Elsie Farrington, N.Y.	1822	1844
Jonathan Gushwa, Ohio	1835	1845

Henry Treesh, DeKalb	1846	1846
----------------------	------	------

AUBURN COURIER----19 September 1907----Page 6 - Cols. 1 & 2

\*\*\*\*\*

### LIST OF PIONEERS

#### Who Attended the Pioneer Meeting in Auburn Sept. 12 Time of Birth and Settlement

<u>Name and Place</u> <u>of Birth</u>	<u>Time of</u> <u>Birth</u>	<u>Date</u> <u>Settlement</u>
------------------------------------------	--------------------------------	----------------------------------

<u>NEWVILLE.</u>		
B.F. Blair, Ohio	1834	1835
J.W. Platter, DeKalb	1836	1836
Caroline Blair, DeKalb	1840	1840
John W. Wyatt, Ohio	1832	1841
Martha Wyatt, Ohio	1839	1845
Elmer Wyatt, Ohio	1841	1841
Wm. Seely, New York	1833	1843
Julia Wyatt, DeKalb	1845	1845
David Griest, Concord	1846	1846
Margaret Griest, Concord	1846	1846

<u>BUTLER TOWNSHIP.</u>		
Phillip Noel, Ohio	1838	1839
Mary Shoaf, DeKalb	1841	1841
W.H. Fair, Butler	1843	1843
Jacob A. Miller, Ohio	1836	1844
John Griest, Ohio	1839	1845
Sarah A. Fair, Richland	1845	1845
W.A. Feagler, Ohio	1840	1846

Abel Smith, DeKalb	1846	1846
--------------------	------	------

JACKSON

Willis Bishop, DeKalb	1838	1838
A.C. Osborn, Ohio	1839	1842
Elizabeth Bishop, DeKalb	1842	1842
John P. Moore, Ohio	1832	1842
Samuel Maurer, Indiana	1842	1842
Hiram Cupp, Ohio	1841	1842
Jane Osborn, Jackson	1844	1844
J.G. Lawhead, DeKalb	1844	1844
Amos Hilkey, Ohio	1843	1846
Nancy C. Cobler, DeKalb	1846	1846

WILMINGTON

Jacob Gunsenhouser, Ohio	1836	1836
E. Gunsenhouser, Ohio	1834	1836
S.J. Firestone, Ohio	1833	1836
Isaac Gunsenhouser, De.,	1838	1838
John Snyder, New York	1832	1841
Harvey Smurr, Ohio	1833	1842
Caroline Bunge, Ohio	1841	1842
Elizabeth Ginder, DeKalb	1842	1842
Lovina Livergood, Ohio	1838	1842
Mrs. H. Smurr, Ohio	1883	1843
William Deems, DeKalb	1843	1843
W.J. Ball, Ohio	1839	1843
J.D. Woods, Ohio	1840	1844
J.H. Smith, Ohio	1839	1844
John Barnhart, Ohio	1845	1845
Edward Rowe, Wilmington	1845	1845
J.J. Coleman, DeKalb	1845	1845
Martha Woods, Ohio	1841	1846
Margaret Smith, Ohio	1840	1846
Caroline Firestone, Ohio	1838	1846
W.A. Rose, Ohio	1834	1846
Louis Brown, Ohio	1834	1846

BUTLER CITY

W.L. Blair, Ohio	1831	1835
Rachel Enzor, Ohio	1836	1837
Mrs. J. McCurdy, Ohio	1834	1837
Harriet Haines, DeKalb	1840	1840
Mariah Devore, Ohio	1836	1841
John Hamilton, DeKalb	1841	1841
E.M. Smurr, Ohio	1836	1842
George Jennings, DeKalb	1839	1843
Jane Deems, DeKalb	1843	1843
Ursula Hamilton, DeKalb	1845	1845
Jacob Mc Donald, Ohio	1823	1846
Rebecca Deems, Ohio	1840	1846





WILLIAM LEWIS HOULTON FAMILY

In 1866, bought a saw mill, which he ran for two years then sold it. In 1877, he bought a light portable mill and threshing machine, which he sold two years later. In 1881, he again bought a saw mill. He has ran a treshing machine eight seasons, and in 1883 bought a new Massillon Thresher.

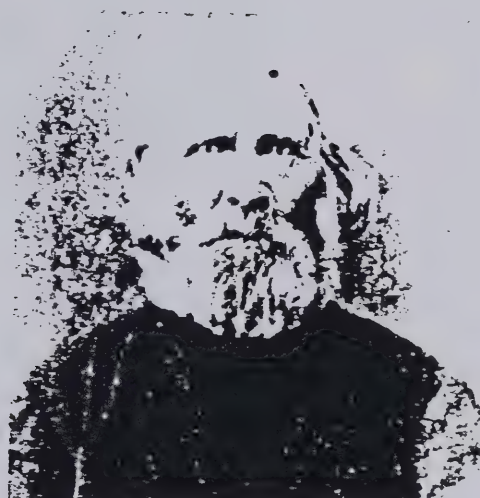


JOHN W. WYATT HOMESTEAD

When he died, at the age of ninety-five on 28 July 1906, he was the oldest man in the county and a record was set by him. He had owned and resided for seventy years on this same land, a record never reaches before.



FREDRICK H.T. AND CAROLINE (SHOUPÉ) BUNGE



ADAM CARPER



JOHN HENRY AND IONA (ZERKLE) SMITH

## OLD SETTLERS DAY

### Committee Appointed to Arrange for Its Observance

There was a meeting held Thursday evening at the office of Rose & Rose in this city to make preliminary arrangements for the observance of Old Settlers day in this city on Thursday, June 18, and the following committees were appointed:

Executive committee--T.H. Sprott, H.D. Weaver, John H. Leasure, A.L. Kuhlman and M. Boland.

Officers--T.G. Sprott, president; H.D. Weaver, secretary; John H. Leasure, treasurer.

Finance Committee--Joseph Rainier, Bert Beidler and Thomas Carter.

Entertainment--G.A. Bishop, H.B. McCord, M.E. Garrett and H.R. Culbertson.

Music--R.C. McClung, and William Schermerhorn.

Ground--Ralph Thomas, J.Y.W. McClellan, Dr. U.G. Scuder and Cook Ford.

Decoration--Mrs. R. Shull, Mrs. C.B. Weaver, Mrs. Alice M. Lewis and Mrs. W.H. Nusbaum.

Advertising and Printing--A.L. Kuhlman, W.H. Schaab and E.O. Little.

As will be noticed the arrangements are placed in the hands of the younger men. This was the desire of the older committee. It is the intention to make the observance of Old Settlers day this year a great occasion and the committees will spare no work or pains to get if possible all the old settlers of the county here. There will be an interesting program and a general good time.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----21 May 1908-----Page 7 - Col. 1

\*\*\*\*\*

## ABOUT OUR PIONEERS

### Some Interesting Reminiscences of Old Time Meetings.

The annual recurrence of Old Settler's Day, which this year will be observed in Auburn on June 18th, will make timely a review of the organization of the society and the first meeting held. This was on the Fourth of July, 1878, at Auburn, at the occasion of the celebration in this city of Independence day.

The committee of arrangements for this meeting were John Leasure, G.W. Gordon, R.H. Weamer, Henry Basheller, L.J. Hopkins and T. Mills. At this meeting Dr. Ford was chosen president and T.C. Mays selected as officer of the day. Committees were appointed and it was decided to perfect an organization on September 12th, 1878, and at that time adopt a constitution, only persons who were citizens of this county prior to January 1, 1846, being eligible as members.

The organization was completed on September 12th and the



constitution adopted. Mayor S.W. Sprott acting as chairman of the meeting, sixty-six persons, who had settled in the county prior to 1846, signing the constitution. The organization called itself; "The Pioneers' Association of DeKalb County" and the following were the first officers:

President--Elder S.B. Ward.

Vice-President--P.B. Nimmons.

Secretary--W.H. Dills.

Treasure--Cyrus Bowman.

Biographer--J.E. Rose

Executive Committee--John Hogue, O.C. Clark, William Carr, R. Culbertson, B.F. Blair, Samuel Headley, T.D. Green, John Butt, N. Griffith, Phillip Gushwa, R.G. Daniels, N. Keep, William Emerson and Henry Wannemaker, one from each township.

The first regular gathering, under the constitution adopted, was June 19, 1879. It was held in the grove between Auburn and Auburn Junction and nearly 4000 people were present. The speaker of the day was Hon. John Morris, formerly a resident of DeKalb county, but at that time an attorney of Fort Wayne. His death occurred in that city only a few years ago.

A basket dinner was partaken of in the grove and in the afternoon an address was delivered by Hon. Andrew Ellison of Lagrange. The biographer, Attorney Rose, read a list of the persons who had died during the year.

One of the interesting features of this meeting was the calling to the platform and the introducing to the audience of the daughter John Houlton, the first settler of the county. This was Mrs. Margaret Cummins, the first white child born in the county, the date being April 7, 1836. The first white male child born in the county, James Platter, born in October of 1836, and also Mrs. J.R. Moody, born in the county on April 17, 1836, a daughter of Abraham Fair, were also introduced to the audience.

The meeting held at St. Joe on June 21, 1883, was the fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of DeKalb county. It was largely attended and was an interesting occasion. The orator of the day was Gen. Blair.

Many, very many of the pioneers who participated in these early meetings of the association are now dead. The real original pioneers, those who came to the county when the country was new, and endured the hardships of that early life, have passed away. But some remain to tell the story of those times and interesting will be their reminiscences when they assemble in Auburn on the Old Settlers' Day of this month.

The program for the meeting will be an interesting one. The exercises will take place on the public square in Auburn. There will be a band concert during the forenoon from 8:30 to 10:30 o'clock and public exercises, both in the forenoon and afternoon, with a chorus of twenty voices, under the direction of H.C. McClung, and a male quartette to assist in the singing. Tables will be placed on the southwest corner of the square for the picnic dinner and free coffee will be served with cream and sugar. During the afternoon the guests

will be given free automobile rides.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----18 June 1908-----Page 1 - Col. 7

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE OLD SETTLERS

### The Thirty-First Annual Reunion Held in Auburn

#### A Large Attendance, Interesting Program and Great Basket Dinner Features of Meeting.

It was a pleasant and warm day that favored the Old Settlers Association of DeKalb county for their thirty-first annual reunion in this city on Thursday and early in the forenoon they began arriving in the city from different parts of the county to be in attendance at the meeting.

The public exercises were held on the court house square. There seats were arranged on the north and east side of the band stand, while tables constructed of boards were erected a little farther away on the lawn for the basket dinners served. The old settlers registered at the secretary's desk as they came in and, these with the other visitors, made the number in attendance at the meeting large.

Early in the forenoon the Auburn City band took their places on the band stand and gave a concert and furnished the instrumental music throughout the day, furnishing fine selections to the delight of their large number of hearers.

For the occasion a committee consisting of Mrs. R. Shull, Mrs. W.H. Nusbaum, Mrs. A. Lewis, and Mrs. Chas. Weaver had very beautifully decorated the band stand with a wealth of June roses. Across the northeast corner of the band stand was suspended the friendly word "welcome" the foundation of which was of smilax and the body of crimson ramblers. The design was very artistic and was the idea of the above ladies worked out by Mr. TenEycke, the florist.

At 10:30 James E. Rose, the president of the association called the meeting to order and announced the program. The first was a song by the male quartette consisting of Messars Schmerhorm, Bass Arthur and Russel Rakestraw. This was followed by prayer by Rev. W. L. Meese after which the quartette rendered another selection.

The president then introduced Hon. Chas. M. Brown who delivered the address of welcome to the settlers. Mr. Brown was unusually happy in his remarks and was given close attention throughout.

Welcoming to the city the pioneers and the old settlers, he paid them a high tribute. They had come here when the country was new, had cleared the forests and made their homes in the county. They had given us, he said, one of the best counties in the state and had made of Auburn one of the best cities of the size in Indiana.

But, he continued for all this we are not indebted alone to the men, It was their wives who had shared with them the

hardships and privations of pioneer life and sided them in their efforts. To them equal honor belongs for the splendid inheritance they have given us.

The response to the welcome address was delivered by Isaac Gunsenhouse, one of the old settlers and former commissioners of the country. His address was a most able and interesting one, reviewing as he did the history of many of the events in the nation, state and county. He, too, was given an interested hearing.

Following Mr. Gunsenhouse's response came reminiscences from some of the old settlers present, songs, music and the great basket dinner in the park. During the afternoon the band gave a concert from the platform and later the old settlers were given automobile rides over the city.

Miles Baxter acted as recording clerk for the old settlers registering and those placing their names on the list, to the time of the noon hour were as follows:

Fremont Smith, Union, 1863  
T.C. Ford, Union, 1852  
Sylvester Wiseman, Keyser, 1857  
James E. Rose, Union, 1836  
Moses B. Miller, Union, 1843  
I.M. Johnson, 1837  
G.T. Abbey, Grant, 1864  
S.Z. Dickinson, Grant, 1866  
J.M. Cherry, Wilmington, 1860  
Wm. Carr, Jackson  
John C. Cramer, Union, 1858  
Geo. W. Bleeks, Concord, 1854  
Mary Bleeks, Concord, 1847  
Andrew B. Duncan, Grant, 1853  
Henry Luce, 1853  
Lina McClarry, Grant, 1861  
Rose M. Shull, Union, 1762  
Cory L. Baxter, Butler, 1868  
Joseph C. Prosser, Union, 1862  
Paul Kessler, Fairfield, 1865  
Susan Kessler, Fairfield, 1865  
Joseph Link, Union, 1853  
John H. Thomas, Keyser, 1842  
Mathias Cupp, Union, 1842  
Catharine Cupp, Union, 1854  
Martha Essig, Union, 1854  
Isaac Hague, Union, 1838  
Simpson Johnson, Union, 1863  
Susan Groh, Richland, 1856  
Flosinda Friend, Richland, 1845  
Charles Snell, Union, 1854  
Christina Snell, Union, 1854  
Charles A. Tustison, Concord, 1859  
Flora A. Tustison, Concord, 1854  
Hiram Enzor, Union, 1854  
Lavina Enzor, Union, 1848  
Norris Friend, Richland, 1855  
O.H. Widney, Concord, 1841  
Elmer Wyatt, Newville, 1842



Eliza Imhoff, Newville, 1854  
 Miles Baxter, Union, 1864  
 Henry Gunsenhouser, Wilmington, 1836  
 John J. Funk, Concord, 1850  
 John P. Moore, Jackson, 1831  
 Wm. Merica, Butler, 1857  
 Susan Shippy, Richland, 1836  
 Simpson Duck, Union, 1841  
 E.J. Patee, Scott, Steuben, 1842  
 P.D. Ginder, Wilmington, 1854  
 Martha Ginder, 1855  
 Ann Gunsenhouser, Wilmington, 1848  
 George Moore, Union, 1840  
 S.L. Widney, Concord, 1840  
 Byron Widney, Concord, 1862  
 Mary E. Means, Richland, 1841  
 John H. Pyle, Union, 1847  
 Mary J. Pyle, Union, 1850  
 Milton Chaney, Richland, 1853  
 Lucian Hathaway, 1840  
 Regina Weaver, Union, 1841  
 Joseph W. McKay, Union, 1854  
 Mary J. Henderson, Jackson, 1850  
 Clara Greenwalt, Wilmington, 1866  
 Samuel Hilkey, Jackson, 1856  
 R.C. Means, Jackson, 1856  
 Mary Pepple, Keyser, 1856  
 Andrew L. Lower, Fairfield, 1850  
 J.W. Huntsman, Wilmington, 1850  
 Lavina Warford, Wilmington, 1867  
 James Ricketts, Concord, 1847  
 Jane DeLong, Richland, 1841  
 W.H. Fair, Butler, 1843  
 Sarah Fair, Butler, 1845  
 S.J. Tarney, Union, 1841  
 Amos Hilkey, Jackson, 1846  
 W.J. Ball, Wilmington, 1842  
 Albert Buchanan, Union, 1854  
 P.D. Childs, Fairfield, 1849  
 Henry C. Shull, Union, 1846  
 David Smith, Union, 1844  
 W.M. Ettinger, Grant, 1856  
 Chas. T. Rogers, Keyser, 1846  
 J.J. Coleman, Wilmington, 1845  
 J.D. Leighty, Concord, 1844  
 Edward Erwin, Smithfield, 1852  
 Andrew Kiplinger, Union, 1854  
 Mary Smith Miller, Jackson, 1854  
 A.J. Ralston, Union, 1842  
 Catharine Mergy, Grant, 1858  
 Lois G. Ditmar, Jackson, 1844  
 Ada Paulin, Butler,  
 Joel E. Hartman, Smithfield, 1847  
 Sarah Hartman, Smithfield, 1845  
 C.W. Luce, Union, 1856  
 Martha Webb, Wilmington, 1838

Eli Myers, Union, 1842  
 Willis A. Dannells, Wilmington, 1861  
 Ella Braun, Union, 1866  
 Mrs. Thomas Jones, Richland, 1854  
 Marietta Nichol, Richland, 1854  
 J.Y.W. McClellan, Jackson, 1855  
 John Treesh, Richland, 1854  
 Sarah A. Bowman, Grant, 1841  
 Eliza Dilgard,  
 Emily Reed, Union, 1853  
 Esther Wells McKee, Fairfield, 1864  
 Amos Swigert, Union, 1850  
 Thomas Marsh, Grant, 1863  
 L.D. Nelson, Jackson, 1866  
 John H. Simanton, Concord, 1862  
 Wm. Johnson, Jackson, 1842  
 A. Culbertson, Jackson, 1855  
 John S. Olinger, Keyser, 1846  
 Peter Diehm, Richland, 1854  
 Sam Morr, Union, 1851  
 Dr. A.A. Kester, Keyser, 1842  
 Alice Simanton, Concord, 1865  
 Jane Deems, Wilmington, 1844  
 Ephraim Wyatt, Union, 1850  
 Wm. Bowman, Richland, 1857  
 Wm. Murphy, Union, 1854  
 M.R. Wilson, Union, 1867  
 A.M. St.Clair, Union, 1854  
 F.A. Hogue, Butler, 1849  
 Jacob Olinger, Keyser, 1861  
 Samuel Culver, Richland, 1847  
 J.K. Stafford, Union, 1846  
 Willis Bishop, Jackson, 1838  
 B.F. Hilkey, Jackson, 1851  
 R.S.S. Reed, Union, 1853  
 Cevilla Grube, Butler, 1850  
 John Cook, Wilmington, 1863  
 M.A. High, Jackson, 1858  
 W.L. Norris, Richland, 1868  
 M. Tustison, Concord, 1854  
 Lewis Brown, Wilmington, 1846  
 Hiram H. Slaybaugh, Smithfield, 1852  
 James Freeman, Butler, 1854  
 Didamia Monroe, Richland, 1843  
 Ella Blaney, Union, 1856  
 A.W. Watson, Keyser, 1848  
 Margaret Stafford, Union, 1848  
 Geo. A. Brown, Union, 1863  
 Mary Strebe, Union, 1865  
 J.W. Essig, Union, 1865  
 F.J. White, Concord, 1857



**COLONEL AUBREY L. KUHLMAN:** One of his many interest was military affairs and more than a score of years ago he organized at Auburn a company of the National Guard, of which he was elected captain on the date of its muster into service, January 12, 1892. On March 25, 1897, he was commissioned a major, and on the out break of the Spanish-American war he reported at Indianapolis for duty with his regiment on April 26th and was, on May 10th 1898, commissioned as major and had command of a battalion of four hundred and thirty-five officers and men, his command being a part of the One Hundred Fifty-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for the United States volunteer service, serving as such until mustered out of that service on November 1, 1898.





**WILLIS ARCHIBALD DANNELLS:** He owned a fine farm in Wilmington township, situated on the main road west from Butler, the place being characterized by a high type of improvement in every particular, embracing a good and attractive house, large and well arranged barn, with large stock barns and other necessary outbuildings, all of which reflect credit on the owner and which have made the place one of the most valuable farms in this section of the county.



**JAMES Y.W. MC CLELLAN:** In 1903 he was elected mayor of Auburn and his administration was one of the most successful this city has ever had. During his term of office a gas plant was built, an interurban line was constructed through Auburn and great progress was made in the paving of streets and in making other public improvements.



MORRIS WILSON AND SUSANNA (DETER) FRIEND FAMILY

Resided in Richland Township, near Corunna.



## OLD SETTLERS MEETING

### Officers and Executive Committee Met

#### in Auburn and Named the Day.

Saturday morning the officers and executive committee of the old settlers' association of DeKalb county met in John Baxter's law office and named the third Thursday in June as the time and Auburn as the Place for holding the annual old settlers' reunion.

Mrs. J.A. Barns is the secretary and during the past week she has been kept busy sending out notices to the township presidents. The affair last year was a great success and there was a large attendance, many coming hundreds of miles to attend the meeting. A splendid program is being prepared for this year and the day will be an interesting one. The following officers were elected last year:

President . . . . .	J.E. Rose
Vice-President . . . . .	G.F. Abbey
Secretary . . . . .	Mrs. A. Barns
Treasurer . . . . .	T.H. Sprott
Biographer . . . . .	A.J. Ralston.

AUBURN WEEKLY COURIER-----17 May 1909-----Page 1 - Col. 1

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE OLD SETTLERS

### Held Annual Meeting at Opera House In Auburn Thursday.

#### ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS.

Mayor Denison Chosen President and M. B. Willis Secretary--  
Judge Adair Delivered Address of the Day.

The 32d annual meeting of the Old Settlers' association of DeKalb County took place at Auburn Thursday. Notwithstanding the threatening weather, there was a good attendance, but instead of holding the forenoon meeting on the public square, as had been arranged. It was held at the Henry opera house.

The meeting was called to order by G.T. Abbey, of Waterloo, the former vice president but now acting as president on account of the death of Hon. J.E. Rose, who was president of the association. By his death Mr. Abbey was advanced to the position of president. Mr. Abbey made an address full of interest. The Presbyterian choir then sang beautifully, "Gathering Home." The opening prayer was made by Father Schmitz, of Auburn. He was eloquent in his invoking of the divine blessing upon the old settlers and the

proceedings of the meeting. The welcome address was delivered by Mayor Denison, of Auburn, and the response by H.W. Mountz, who paid a glowing tribute to Auburn. The minutes of the preceding meeting of the association were read by Mr. J.A. Barnes, the secretary, after which the president appointed the following committee for the nomination of officers for the ensuing year:

Wm. Blair, chairman; M.B. Willis, Isaac Gunsenhouser, H.W. Mountz, T.C. Ford, A.C. Gruhlke, George Buchanan.

The meeting then adjourned for the noon hour, during the latter part of which the Auburn City band took its position on the band stand in the courthouse square and discoursed its sweetest music.

The association recognized at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon at the opera house, a large audience being present. The Auburn City band played a selection and then President Abbey called the meeting to order and, by Wm. Blair, the chairman, the nominating committee made its report of the officers for the ensuing year as follows:

President . . . . . George O. Denison, Auburn.

Vice-President . . Isaac Gunsenhouser, of Butler.

Secretary . . . . . M.B. Willis, Auburn.

Treasurer . . . . . Thos. H. Sprott, Auburn.

Biographer . . . . . A.J. Ralston, Auburn.

The committee recommended the former township vice presidents as officials for the ensuing year.

On motion the report of the committee was adopted and the above were named as officers of the association for the year to come.

The principal address of the day was delivered by Judge Adair, of Columbia City. The judge is well qualified to speak on such occasions as this in northern Indiana. Most of his fruitful life has been spent here. Here and in Whitley county he for years was a school teacher and in this avocation he came in close contact with the patrons of the little log schoolhouse and their children; he was for years county superintendent of the schools of his county; next he was a lawyer of good ability and finally for many years he was an impartial and upright judge in the circuit court of Whitley and Noble countries. The judge's life has been many sided and he is a broad-minded, liberal man today.

His address to the old settlers on Thursday was an able one and was enjoyed very much by the large crowd present in the opera house.

Following his address William Blair was introduced and offered a memorial to the life of James E. Rose, who, when he departed this life, was president of the Old Settlers' association of DeKalb county.

Before adjournment it was decided to meet again next year in Auburn on the third Thursday of June.

---

#### NOTES OF THE MEETING

During the past year one hundred and six old settlers of

DeKalb county have passed away. A pretty rich harvest.

Throughout the afternoon the famous Auburn City band furnished music from the grand stand, Director Niles had prepared an excellent program for the old settlers and the music was inspiring.

The day was fine in the afternoon and the crowd was very good, considering the morning's weather conditions.

Giles Abbey was president of the meeting and he made an admirable presiding officer.

THE AUBURN COURIER----21 June 1909----Page 1 - Cols.4,5,6

\*\*\*\*\*

### **DEATH'S HAND AMONG OLD SETTLERS IN THE REPORT MADE FOR THIS YEAR**

#### **THE ROLL OF THE DEAD AS READ BY A.J. RALSTON, THE BIOGRAPHER FOR THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION OF DE KALB COUNTY**

The deaths among the old settlers of DeKalb county, as shown by the records kept by the biographer of the Old Settlers' association, A.J. Ralston, for the past year numbered 106. This record was read by Mr. Ralston at the meeting of the association in this city on Thursday and is as follows, giving the name and the age at death:

Solomon Lower, aged 48 years	Samuel Kennedy, aged 77
John Fretz, aged 70	Frank Miser, aged 62
Daniel Husselman, aged 72	Alex H. Mason, aged 78
Cory Shugers, aged 47	Mrs. G. T. Abbey, aged 79
Joseph Case, aged 79	Susan Wyatt, aged 60
William Sheffer, aged 63	Charles E. Emanuel, aged 57
Alex McKinley, aged 40	Sol Harding, aged 75
David F. Thomas, aged 58	Emmet E. Brown, aged 40
Michael Wetsel, aged 95	Rachael Watson, aged 88
Balias Boyer, aged 68	Matilda Widney, aged 82
William A. Rose, aged 66	Elizabeth Lutz, aged 84
Laura A. Thompson, aged 52	David T. Smith, aged 71
Mary C. McDonald, aged 84	F.E. Davenport, aged 63
John H. Secor, aged 86	Oliver J. Camp, aged 57
John C. Getting, aged 66	William Henderson, aged 85
John W. Miller, aged 72	Emma Moughler, aged 52
Thisba Rodenbaugh, aged 56	Alex Guilford, aged 55
F.A. Hippenhammer, aged 52	Mathias Zerwis, aged 78
Mrs. Samuel Lutes, aged 61	R.M. Lockhart, aged 77
Mrs. C.C. Hoffman, aged 81	Mrs. N. Ashley, aged 78
Daniel Tomlinson, aged 76	Ermina Smith, aged 58
Isabella Sanson, aged 86	J.E. Rose, aged 76
Andrew A. Hanes, aged 64	Enos Vian, aged 83
Jerome A. Rush, aged 88	Henry Shellhouse, aged 66
James R. Howey, aged 66	Emily Widney, aged 65
John C. Slentz, aged 69	John Kruse, aged 82
John Ansett, aged 72	Frieda Paisian, aged 43
Mrs. E. Raub, aged 63	Sarah Palmerton



Sarah E. Baird, aged 46  
Mrs. Ann Kline, aged 80  
James May, aged 73  
Charles W. Tomlinson, aged 59  
Sarah T. Collins, aged 50  
Rebecca Bowman, aged 79  
Jonathan Boyle, aged 93  
Jacob Funk, aged 82  
Hollis Akins, aged 56  
Fannie Husselman, aged 73  
Thos. Eldridge, aged 73  
Warells Boozer, aged 67  
Henry Baker, aged 70  
Henry C. Shull, aged 70  
Abraham Fisher, aged 86  
Margaret Williamson, aged 84  
Frank Draggoo, aged 55  
Mrs. James May, aged 66  
Henry Osbun  
Eb. DeLong, aged 76  
Evaline Lutson, aged 64  
Deborah Smith, aged 74  
Nancy J. Blodgett, aged 71  
Lucian Hathaway, aged 73  
Anna McDaniel, aged 88  
Susannah Camp, aged 80

Sarah Hopkins  
Mariah L. Hand, aged 70  
Mary A. Farver, aged 79  
Anton Hablawets, aged 81  
Lydia A. Weeks, aged 64  
Alfred Shoop, aged 50  
Mrs. C. Welch, aged 62  
Solomon Hose, aged 60  
Elizabeth Tucker, aged 64  
Lizzie Breckbill, aged 41  
Barbara Koble, aged 60  
Sarah Shaffer, aged 94  
Amy Bailey, aged 50  
Daniel Houk  
Wm. Heckathorn, aged 58  
Mary Kimball, aged 70  
Harriet E. Wiley, aged 84  
Washington Hart, aged 65  
David Miller, aged 69  
Rachael Rickett, aged 55  
Wm. Kneyutt, aged 76  
Sarah Woodcox  
Rebecca McDonald, aged 97  
Sophia Briggs, aged 71  
Lizzie Deubner, aged 44

THE AUBURN COURIER-----21 June 1909-----Page 3 - Col. 1,2

\*\*\*\*\*



**HOWARD WESLEY AND MARGARET A. (CLEMENT) MOUNTZ:** He was president and board member of the Garrett State Bank, Garrett City Attorney for four years prior to service in the Indiana State Legislature, 1905.



**ANDREW JACKSON AND SARAH (GROSL) COLLINS:** Andrew came here to be a minister for the Friends. There was no church building, so many of the Friends' meetings conducted by Andrew were held in one of the church buildings in Newville.

## **THE OLD SETTLERS MEET HERE JUNE 16**

**The Officers are Planning a Good Program  
to be Rendered Here on That Occasion**

### **GOOD MUSIC AND ADDRESSES**

**Will be Given---Two Officers Have Died Since Last Meeting**

The next event of importance to be held in Auburn is the Old Settlers' meeting, scheduled for June 16th. The officers are planning to make the event one of much interest. The officers are: President, George O. Dennison; vice president, Isaac Gunsenhouser; secretary, M.B. Willis; treasurer, T.H. Sprott; biographer, A.J. Ralston. The vice presidents are as follows: Troy township, Luther Knisely; Stafford, Isaac Gunsenhouser; Newville, William Seeley; Concord, S.L. Widney; Wilmington, W.L. Blair; Franklin, William Holton; Smithfield, John Clark; Union, T.C. Ford; Jackson, P.P. Lochner; Butler, William Fair; Keyser, O.C. Clark; Fairfield, P.D. Child. The vice presidents who were chosen for Richland and Grant townships have died since the last meeting.

An appropriate program consisting of music and addresses will be rendered and a good time is promised to those who will attend.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----2 June 1910-----Page 1 - Col. 7

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SHALL WE COMMEMORATE IN HONOR OF SETTLERS**

**On June Sixteenth Pioneers and Succeeding Generations  
Will Meet in Mutual Happiness**

The observance of Old Settlers' Day has been lacking in emphasis and loyalty during the last few years, and that the once enthusiastic celebration has passed into all but obscurity is evidenced by the fact that little mention, public or private, has been made with reference to the coming Old Settlers' meeting, though it is dated for but six days hence.

The succeeding generations, coming from the families whose unceasing endeavors and perseverance conquered the unyielding soil, and converted unhealthful swamps, abiding places of beasts, and an impenetrable thicket into stately towns and cities, and well tilled land which now comprise the county of DeKalb, are becoming more insensible, each year, to the hardships, the vicissitudes and the extreme unpleasantness attending the life of the early settlers. We of today can scarcely conceive of the fact that rumbling machinery, beautiful residences, busy manufacturing concerns and educational institutions have supplanted an uninhabited and desolate wilderness, and thus authorized the existence of our beautiful towns and rural districts. It is the old



settler whose tottering form will be in evidence on next Thursday, who labored to make such conditions possible. With reverence then we should assist in the celebration.

President George Dennison of the Old Settlers association, has arranged a splendid program for the event, rendered as follows:

Welcome address, Mayor H.R. Culbertson.

Response, J.E. Pomeroy.

Address, Steve Powers, Angola.

Music by the band and a male quartet.

The old settlers and their friends will gather in the court yard prior to ten o'clock, bringing with them well filled baskets. The Auburn band has been engaged to furnish music during the republican county convention to be held on the same day of the old settlers' reunion, and they will also give music for the old settlers. Old Settlers' Day, we all concede, should be reverently observed, yet the concession, without action to the end of being in attendance, adds but little, if anything, to the splendor of the day. In large numbers DeKalb county folk should attend, and thus do honor to the rapidly diminishing ranks of the pioneers.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----16 June 1910-----Page 5 - Cols. 1 & 2

\*\*\*\*\*

### **THE OLD SETTLERS' REUNION NOTABLE EVENT**

**Many Old Settlers and Younger Ones, too,  
Assembled in Auburn to Observe Anniversary**

(From Thursday's Daily.)

### **VERY GOOD PROGRAM**

Was Rendered--Steven Powers of Angola  
Greatly Interested the Large Audience

The thirty-third annual meeting of the pioneer settlers of DeKalb county was written in our county's history today, when representative men and women whose early abode was spent in DeKalb, gathered to revive the pleasant memories of the long ago. In the morning hours old settlers from various parts of the county arrived, and occupying the improvised seats which were arranged in a semi-circle about the band stand they absorbed the splendid music rendered by the Auburn City band until the hour of 10:30, when the session was called to order by President Denison. A selection by the band followed, after which Mayor Hugh R. Culbertson delivered the welcome address. The city executive turned over to the pioneers the key to our city and told them it was theirs for the day. He told them of their welcome by Auburn citizens and that the old settlers have the respect of our community. The mayor was at his best, and by his excellent talk

impressed everyone within the hearing of his voice.

Attorney Pomeroy gave the response, and his remarks were replete with fitting tribute to soldier and to citizen. He said many good things, as he always does. The minutes of the previous meeting were then read, after which adjournment was taken until two o'clock.

This afternoon Senator Powers of Angola delivered an intensely interesting address and was enthusiastically received by the large assemblage. The meeting was one of great interest.

#### NOTES OF THE DAY

George Moore of this city is probably the oldest settler in the county, he having attained the age of ninety-four years.

Mr. Moore has lived in DeKalb county many years and is known by innumerable people.

George Waggoner, an Auburn resident who is among those who registered today, is past eighty years of age. He came to Auburn in 1845 and has since been a continuous resident of the city.

S.Z. Dickinson of Waterloo, eighty-three years of age, and who is taken from place to place in an invalid's chair, was in attendance at the old settlers' reunion today and thoroughly enjoyed the program. Mr. Dickinson was born in Ohio and came from Portage county of that state to Waterloo in 1886. He has since resided here.

Miss Jeanette Hoff registered the names of the old settlers today, and the record reveals some very interesting facts and will be of value to refer to in years to come.

The Auburn City band furnished splendid music for the settlers, and it was thoroughly enjoyed.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1910-----Page 4 - Col. 7

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **A SEMI-CENTENNIAL FOR OLD SETTLERS**

##### **How the Movement for Old Settlers' Reunion was inaugurated Many Years Ago**

In view of the annual Old Settlers' meeting to be held in Auburn on the 16th, it was thought timely to advert to an initial effort made to establish a pioneer association a half century ago.

In 1860 the greater number of early settlers in DeKalb county were yet living upon farms laboriously carved from the forest and their memories easily recalled the enjoyments and vicissitudes through which they had passed, and with recollection came a longing to meet old time neighbors and acquaintances of by-gone years.

The subject was agitated and bore fruit in a meeting held in the old court house, at which steps were taken to call together the pioneers and their families to celebrate in

an appropriate manner the settlement of the county.

This meeting was properly presided over by Wesley Park, who, nearly a quarter century before had built a cabin on the bank of the Cedar, and platting ground, had named the future city "Auburn".

Remarks well calculated to awaken interest were made by the chairman, followed by naming two committees, one central and the other general.

The central committee was composed of Wesley Park, S.W. Widney, S.W. Sprott and D.W. Altenberg.

The general committee was made up of a pioneer from each township, named in the usual order of call, from Butler to Troy, as follows: Abraham Fair, Samuel Henderson, John Blair, John Platter, John Rose, George Egness, Wesley Park, Joshua Feagler, William Storey, Isaac B. Smith, John Houlton and Andrew S. Casebeer.

A special invitation was extended to all who had come to the county prior to and inclusive of 1840, and the designated date of meeting was fixed on the first Tuesday of September. Mr. McIntosh sought in vain to learn whether the meeting was held, but all he could ascertain was an account of an organization of the existing association eighteen years later.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----23 June 1910-----Page 4 - Col. 6

\*\*\*\*\*





**HUGH R. CULBERTSON:** In the fall of 1909 he was elected mayor of Auburn after a most spirited contest. The regular election resulted in a tie vote between the two leading candidates for the mayoralty, despite the fact that the city is normally Democratic by one hundred votes. A special election was then called and Mr. Culbertson was then elected by a majority of twenty-two votes.

## **OLD SETTLERS WILL MEET AGAIN**

**St. Joe Will Entertain The Old Settlers In Their Little  
City On The East, Thursday, June 15**

### **Many Will Go From Here**

Everything will be ready for the visitors  
when the sun rises on Thursday morning

St. Joe is making great preparations for the Old Settlers' day of this week, and when Thursday comes the little town will surely be in readiness for its large crowd of guests.

The hospitality of our neighbors on the east has often been mentioned, and their kindness and pleasant manners upon occasions in the past, has received the applause of the people and the praise of the press.

So it is only natural and fair for them to expect a host of visitors on Thursday, and many are planning to mingle among the old settlers at St. Joe, Thursday, June 15th.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----15 June 1911-----Page 7 - Col. 4

\*\*\*\*\*

## OLD SETTLERS' DAY JUNE 20TH, 1912

### The Annual Event Takes Place in Butler--Wm. L. Blair Talks Entertainingly of DeKalb's Early History

Wm. L. Blair, the president of DeKalb County's Old Settlers' association, was in Auburn Saturday and is very enthusiastic about the coming meeting of the old settlers to be held in Butler, June 20, 1912, the third Thursday in June being the selected date for each year. The program of the day will be issued shortly and with the plans in preparation the success of the meeting is assured.

Mr. Blair, the president, with, his brother, Lewis J. Blair, of Waterloo, are the oldest pioneer residents in the county. W.L. Blair was born in Portage county, the 27th day of November, 1831, thus making his age at the next birthday 81 year old. Coming to DeKalb county in 1835, when he was four years old, it will be noted that he has lived in the county continuously for 77 years. There is no person now alive in DeKalb county that was living in the county when Wm.L. and Lewis J. Blair came here to locate. The town of St. Joe, that is the east part, now stands on the land that was entered by John Blair, the father, a descendant of the John Blair that Queen Elizabeth sent over to this land before there was a United States, to establish a college--the first one--located where Virginia is now.

W.L. Blair now lives at the edge of Butler on the south, just outside the corporation line, where, with his wife, married in 1901, he keeps house on a thirty-acre tract. Mr. Blair's first wife died in 1899, after forty years of married life. To this union two children were born, both alive---Mrs. Lena Corcoran, living in Battle Creek, Mich., and Corwin E. Blair, living in Gary.

When the Blairs moved to DeKalb county they made the tenth family and the total population of men, women and children was thirty-nine. There was no such place as Auburn. the first settlement or town was Vienna, now called Newville. Mr. Blair remembers very well when Wesley Park laid out the town of Auburn. There was quite a contest over locating the county-seat at Auburn and a group of men were striving strenuously to have the county-seat in the exact center of the county, but Park won out, and "Auburn forever with honest endeavor" began its history-making career.

It is to be hoped that the old settler's meeting for 1912 will be in keeping with the success of all the former events and that all who are able to go will do so and keep alive the sentiment that clusters around the gatherings of these pioneers. The ranks of the old settlers are thinning rapidly. Very nearly one hundred have passed away since the last meeting and it is well to honor the present survivors of the early struggles of DeKalb's pioneer days by paying a homage with one's presence at their annual meetings.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----16 May 1912-----Page 2 - Col. 3 & 4

\*\*\*\*\*



## BUTLER MEN ADVERTISE OLD SETTLERS' DAY

-----

About fifteen automobiles from Butler started out Monday morning to advertise the Old Settlers' meeting which will be held in that city on the 20th of June. They made a trip over the entire county and distributed bills to all the farm houses as well as to all the homes in the various towns of the county. The business men are assisting president, William Blair, in his efforts to make this the largest and best celebration of Old Settlers' day that has ever been held in DeKalb county. A fine program has been prepared and many attractions will be there to interest the people. The children are all interested in the Indian settlement and are expecting to see the real old fashioned savage, blood thirsty and ready to scalp them. The Butler people are expecting one of the largest crowds there Thursday that has ever gathered in their city.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----20 June 1912-----Page 7 - Col. 1

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE DAY OF THE OLD SETTLER

W. H. McIntosh

Old Settlers' day to be handsomely observed by Butler citizens, is drawing near and by right deserve public recognition since it commemorates a people and a period of striking importance in their relation to the present.

This generation inherit as beneficiaries enormous advantages secured for them by the pioneers of DeKalb some four score years ago and for this rich inheritance owe to them the debt of gratitude.

The truly heroic men and women who with unfaltering courage encountered and overcame the formidable inert resistance of nature aimed with malarial disease had volunteered for life to win homes for their children. For then death was the sole discharge and their long, long campaign was fought upon a line that brought crucial test to their powers of endurance. Not for all one summer and winter like the contest waged by a famous general of the war for the Union but for many many years the reclamation of forest to field went on.

They knew little to create enthusiasm. For them was no beat of drum nor bugle's strain, but from the clearings were heard the sound of the echoing axes and at intervals the dull crash of falling monarches of the woods, while through the open cabin door came the drowsy hum of the spinning wheel.

Thousand of soldiers in camp and southern prisons, more thousands invalided in hospitals by wounds or disease, brooding over far-away homes, sickened and died of longing to go back to them, but the early settlers of DeKalb lonely in straggling villages and isolated homesteads, endured discouragement and difficulty yet clung bravely to their rude

domiciles when, had they so willed, they could have abandoned the struggle and returned to the comforts and society of eastern civilization.

Biding their time, they looked forward to better days and eventually came their Appomattox in nature's unconditional surrender and subsequent co-operation of climate and soil to realize exciting prosperity.

Some few veteran survivors like William L. Blair, of Butler, a pioneer of 1835, have lived to know a full fruition of most ardent hopes and as the past grows dim and fades away the present shines with radiant brilliancy startling in its intensity.

Gladly the pioneers witnessed and helpfully welcomed the steadily increasing tide of newcomers, bringing in cease of solitude by neighborly proximity, making feasible the construction of more pretentious buildings for use of schools on week days and religious services on the Sabbath.

With what satisfaction the early settlers have seen the marvelous development of natural resources as knowing well that to their constancy and well-directed efforts the merit is largely due for subsequent unbounded success. About their lives there centers an uncommon interest. To them, grateful recognition is a just award. There are no monuments nor memorial days for the pioneers but well are both deserved. A stately granite shaft erected upon public grounds would be proper tribute to their memories and a well merited testimonial to eminent service.

Turn back for the moment the dial of time and view the pioneer families upon entered lands. What a hard life was theirs. What incessant labor, what wearisome journeys and how crude the implements and methods of farming! It was the day of the hoe and the harrow, of the sickle and the flail; in many a cabin, furniture was scanty and rude; flax and wool were grown for home-made clothing and there were times in truth when women sewed "with a double thread, a shroud as well as a shirt."

Nor was a bright side lacking. There were robust health and buoyant spirits. There were supreme confidence and firm resolution and when logging and raising were done, athletic sports fitted well with conscious agility and strength of muscles hardened by habitual exercise.

Westward, the star of empire held its course. The march of progress is ever forward. The generation of this day could not if they would, revert to the methods of their progenitors. In vain did Blair seek for three yoke of oxen to illustrate the olden way of going to camp meeting. He found not one where once they were general and indispensable.

Retrospection is far more pleasant than would be a return to the crude ways, customs and lives in DeKalb in the presidential campaign of 1840, when Harrison and hard cider were popular and the Whig slogan was "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too." Pleasure parties speeding in luxurious autos along the improved highways glance with mild curiosity at some hewed or round log house yet to be seen standing back from the road side, deserted and desolate, doorless and sashless and slowly going to decay, amuse, perhaps, at sight of these relics and

reminders of a day when such dwellings were common in the clearings and highways were Indian traces.

A wooded wilderness has been made to "blossom as the rose" by a hardy race most assuredly entitled to recognition one day of the year in acknowledgment of their arduous labors.

The meeting advertised to be held in our sister city of Butler Thursday, June 20, offers unusual inducements to a general attendance from all quarters, for before another year will roll around, it is possible that the last of the pioneers will have passed to the "land of leal," and posterity will never know more of them than may be learned in fragmentary history.

THE AUBURN COURIER-----20 June 1912-----Page 3 - Col. 5 & 6

\*\*\*\*\*

### OLD SETTLERS MEETING

AT BUTLER PROVED TO BE A  
BIG SUCCESS

### NEXT MEETING IN WATERLOO

And Frank W. Willis was Elected President  
for the Coming Year

The old settlers at the annual meeting in Butler Thursday elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

President---Frank W. Willis, Waterloo

Vice President---Edward Kelham, Altona

Biographer-----A.J. Ralston, Auburn

The secretary and treasurer will be selected later. The 1913 meeting will be held in Waterloo, the third Thursday in June.

The township presidents are:

Jackson-----	L.L. Robbins
Butler-----	Phil Noel
Grant-----	C.E. Montavon
Keyser-----	Jefferson Clark
Wilmington-----	W.L. Blair and Jacob Gunsenhouser
Troy-----	W.W. Knisely
Franklin-----	Thomas H. Tomlinson
Smithfield-----	John C. Clark
Fairfield-----	Wm. McGiffin
Richland-----	Norris Friend
Stafford-----	Charles F. Arford
Newville-----	H.W. Magginis
Concord-----	Sol Barney
Spencer-----	Wm. G. Frick
Union-----	H.R. Culbertson



Thursday, June 20, marks an epoch in the history of the pioneers and old settlers' organization of DeKalb county. It was the occasion of their 36th annual reunion held in the city of Butler. The day was perfect, one of the rare days in June which could not have been improved upon. The Butler people had made extensive preparations to entertain old and young and right royally did they succeed in carrying out their purpose. Fully 6,000 people were present during the day and all were supplied with entertainment commensurate to their taste for enjoyment.

The great feature of the day was the industrial parade in which the business interests of the city gained a publicity never before reached through any advertising scheme. There must have been over fifty floats and unique vehicles in line besides the four bands and other attractions. The business enterprises were interspersed with unique and comic creations that were laughable in the extreme and entertained old and young.

This feature surpassed anything ever before witnessed in the county and the spectators were agreeably surprised to see so large a procession of such varied character. The interest in this feature prevented carrying out any other part of the program in the forenoon and in the afternoon by a misunderstanding the majority were prevented from hearing the addresses or in taking part in the business meetings as it was understood the auto parade would move at one o'clock and the business follow afterwards but on the contrary the business meeting was held at the north end of main street while the large crowd of people were lined along the street for half a mile waiting for the auto parade to start.

There must have been over 200 autos in the city and over 100 joined in the parade. Many of the machines were decorated with flags and flowers. Old settlers were conveyed through the principal streets and enjoyed the pleasures afforded.

The pace set by Butler in the extensive program will hardly be reached by any other town in the county and the managers were rewarded for their efforts with a very large and well behaved crowd. Not a drunken man was in evidence, every one was well clothed and in their right mind and all on their good behavior.

The biographers report showed that nearly 200 old settlers had been called away by death during the past year which leaves an impression of sadness.

In the parade about fifty Civil War veterans marched, most of them carrying old army guns, led by a martial band, and in all there were over 100 veterans present during the day.

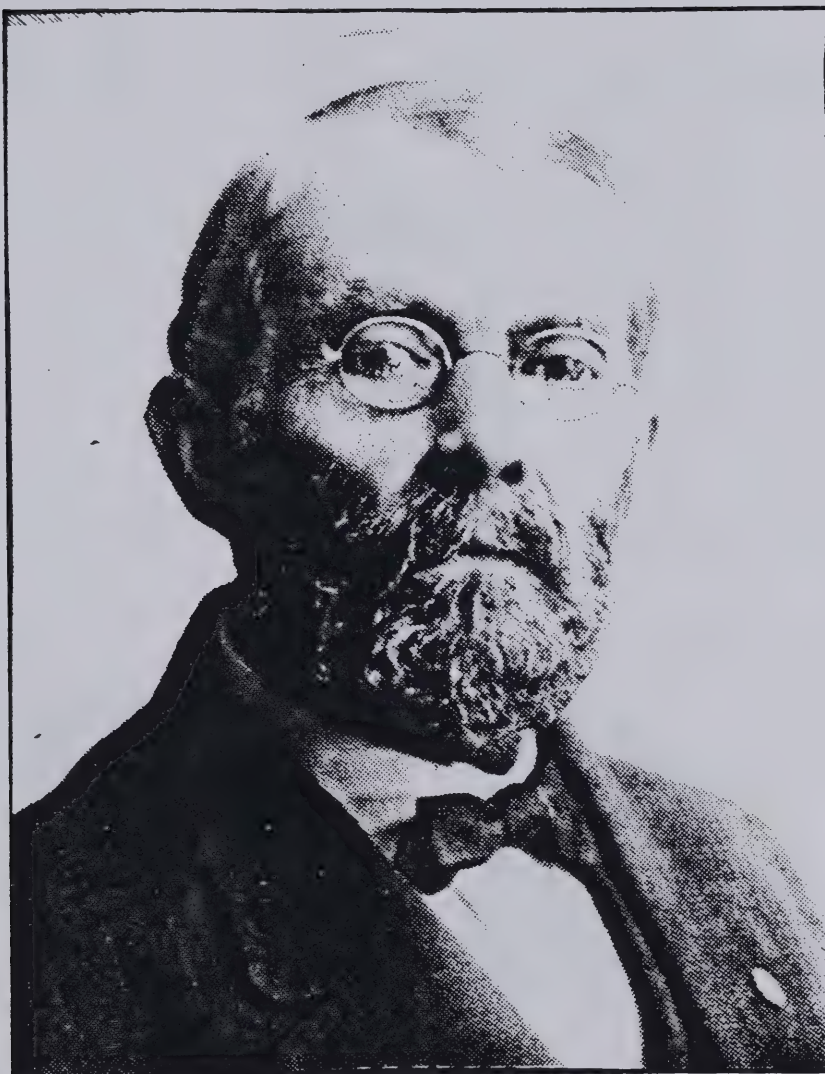
The city was beautifully decorated with flags and bunting and everywhere a cheerful welcome was extended. Butler placed herself prominently on the map and this meeting of old settlers was surely a record breaker. Over 600 registered and received ribbon badges with the halftone likeness of the president, W.L. Blair, also a boutonniere prepared by the ladies. Mr. Blair devoted his entire time and energy in working up this reunion and his greatest

expectations were fully realized. He was ably assisted by the business men of the town.

In the ball game at Butler Thursday the home club defeated the Tri-State College club 5 to 2. It was a good game.

THE WATERLOO PRESS-----27 June 1912-----Page 1 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*



**FRANK W. WILLIS:** January of 1884, Mr. Willis formed a partnership with E.P. Dickinson, and the new firm bought out the Waterloo Press, he was in editorial charge until his death.





**EDWARD KELHAM:** In 1857 he moved to De Kalb county, and bought eighty acres of unimproved land, to which, by good management and industry, he added till he owned 400 acres of the best land in the township, all well cultivated.

**OLD SETTLERS' DAY  
WATERLOO, JUNE 19**

**PLANS BEING MADE FOR A GOOD  
TIME FOR SETTLERS**

**WM. H. M'INTOSH SPEAKER**  
-----

And Others Will Appear on the Program  
School Park Will be the Meeting Place and a Picnic Held  
-----

The local committee is at work on making arrangements for the old settlers' day at Waterloo, which will be held Thursday, June 19. It is planned that the meeting will be held in the school park, west of the town hall, and in event that the weather is unfavorable the program will be held in the new town hall. This will afford every body a place to hear and be comfortably seated. Committee on grounds are preparing to seat the park and make such arrangements as are necessary for the event. Free coffee will be served and everybody is requested to come to Waterloo on that day with well filled baskets and enjoy a picnic dinner in the school park. Good water and all accomodations for the pleasure and convenience of the visitors will be held.

The program committee has invited Wm. H.H. McIntosh, of Auburn, for the principal speaker of the day and Henry Link has been at work for some time in preparing a reminiscence of old settlers that he will read and which will be of special interest to every old settler of the county.

Automobiles will be provided to give the old sttlers a ride over the town, and every effort possible will be made to have a general good time.

There will be a number of attractions on that day. An oxteam will drive to town. Music by the band and good singing. The people of Waterloo will make an effort to give the old settlers the best time that they have ever had.

Every body come to Waterloo June 19th. Tell your neighbors and friends about it.

THE WATERLOO PRESS-----5 June 1913-----Page 5 - Col. 3

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE OLD SETTLERS**

The old settlers of DeKalb county are fast passing away, and while each year there are young old settlers coming into the scene of action, they are not of that kind of old settlers that this county had in years gone by. Men who have tilled the soil after they have cleared the forest, men who hewed out the timbers and erected their log houses, men who spotted their way through the woods, men who helped lay out the towns, who made the county one of the richest and best

counties of the state, are the kind of old settlers that but few years more and they will be depleted.

It is this sturdy kind of old settlers that we begin to miss at such gatherings as will assemble in Waterloo today. Men who endured hardships that but few of the younger class of old settlers of today ever knew. It was by the thrift of these settlers that many of us are enjoying life as we do at this time. For that reason, if no other, we should bid welcome to the older visitors today. They should be made to feel that the town belongs to them and that the people are their servants, that they may be made to enjoy the day. Let everybody give them a glad welcome. Some of them will not meet next year. Since the last meeting there has been one fourth as many as assembled at the last years meeting to pass to the world beyond. Such a rapid rate of deaths among old people is very noticeable. Of any class of people who are entitled to a good time it is the old settlers and why not see that they enjoy this day.

THE WATERLOO PRESS-----19 June 1913-----Page 4 - Col. 2

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE OLD AND YOUNG CELEBRATE TOGETHER**  
**NEARLY FIVE HUNDRED OLD SETTLERS PRESENT**

**THE MEETING WAS A COMPLETE  
SUCCESS**

-----  
**BIG CROWD FOR THE EVENING**

And Everybody who Came to Water-  
loo Had a Good time

**Wm. H.H. McIntosh's Address**  
-----

The annual meeting of the old settlers of DeKalb county held in Waterloo last Thursday was one of the most pleasant gatherings of the kind ever held in the county. It was early in the forenoon when the crowd began to assemble, and every interurban car and every Lake Shore train brought good crowds to town. Many drove to Waterloo for the day and the streets were filled with automobiles. A number of stands and the ocean wave filled Wayne street, so that it looked like a regular street fair. In the school park where the exercises of the day were held, a stage had been built and seats provided for the visitors, so that all were made as comfortable as possible. The sweltering hot weather kept some people away, but the shade and breezes amidst the beautiful maples made the visitors feel that they had struck as cool a place as could be found anywhere.



The forenoon was spent in registering the names of the old settlers and securing badges. Misses Josephine Willis and Rheua Shoemaker acted as assistant secretaries, and with a bevy of handsome young ladies, headed by Miss Fearne Leas, the badges and a rose were pinned on the old settlers. The old settlers were made to feel a welcome by the cordial greeting given them by the young ladies.

The Swift orchestra, the Salvation Army, from Fort Wayne, a Martial Band, of Auburn, and the Waterloo Cornet Band, stationed at various parts of the park furnished the music, and after concerts were given by these organizations the meeting was called to order by the secretary, H.C. Willis, and in the absence of the vice president, Edward Kelham, the executive committee had selected Mr. G.T. Abbey to preside at the meeting. The secretary introduced Mr. Abbey, who took charge of the meeting, and he at once made the appointment of the following committee on nominations:

Wm. L. Blair, Wilmington township.

Capt. M.B. Willis, Union.

Chas. H. Bangs, Richland.

John W. Brown, Franklin.

Samuel Widney, Concord.

After announcements and music the meeting adjourned for the noon hour. During the noon hour there were many people who had brought their dinners to be seen about the park eating in picnic style.

At one o'clock the automobiles of the town and vicinity assembled on Van Vleek street in front of the park and the old settlers were invited to take a ride about the town. This was done for the next half hour, and a large number of people were given rides. The band soon started playing, and with music by the Swift orchestra, the Salvation Army and the Martial band, a general good time was had in visiting and renewing old acquaintances. It was nearly two o'clock when the chairman of the meeting sounded the gavel and called them to order.

After music by the various concert companies, Wm. H. Leas was introduced, who gave the address of welcome, which was as follows:

"Mr. President, Old Settlers, Ladies, Gentlemen and Fellow Citizens: Assembled as we are on this day under the auspices of an organization formed by the early pioneers of this our beloved county, we have never been I venture at this particular time in this, one of the nicest parks of its kind in this our beloved state.

"Yet I must remind you that of those who had the origin of this old settlers organization under their management and should have taken the place which I am now occupying, it has been recorded have passed from the shores of time into eternity. I refer to that one who had one year ago been selected as your president for this meeting. Generations come and go and time goes on, and those who survive have to take a place which our ancestors would have filled had they not passed to the great beyond.

"Ordinarily on occasions like the present, in towns and cities, the lot which has been assigned me for the day has

been filled by President or Mayor, of the municipality, but owing to the absence of the one and the fact that your president is not with us, the committee called on me this morning and asked that I take the place, and in doing so I feel that I am assuming a pleasure as well as a duty.

"It may not be out of place at this time to say to you that I am not in strict parlance an old settler. I arrived in Northern Indiana at a very early time during my existence on this sphere. I was born in Steuben county and near the northern boundary of the DeKalb line; so near, that on opening my eyes during boyhood I looked over the line, and during the years I had duties as a farmer's boy which caused me to be in this county, as my father's farm lay in part in Fairfield township.

"I wish further to state that while I arrived in this part of the state a young settler, I have continued to be either a resident of Steuben or DeKalb county during my life, father and our family having removed to this vicinity in 1868. I spent a few years at schools, and since the first of June, 1875, have cast my lot as a citizen of Waterloo.

"While I am not the whole thing at this place, I am one of the citizens, and by the request of other, I at this time have the pleasure of saying to the Old Settlers, Young Settlers, Visitors, and all present, that we extend to you one and all a hearty welcome, and in the doing so assure you that the chief officer is out of town, and his subordinate (The Marshall), if I might introduce him, would appear too very frail, and I have the assurance of the committee for this occasion that the keys are securely kept in their charge, and so long as no extreme cases arise,

Continued on Page Four

Page 4 - Col. 2,3 & 4

### THE OLD AND YOUNG CELEBRATE TOGETHER

will be held by them, and you have the full town at your disposal. We trust that you will enjoy the day and come and accept the cooling shades of this school house park each year for the remaining years of your lives and the lives of your children's children.

Mr. O.N. Widney then rendered two vocal solos, which were very entertaining, after which the secretary read the report of the nominating committee, which was as follows:

Place of meeting for 1914----Auburn.

President, Capt. M.B. Willis.

Vice President, Isaac Gunsenhouser.

Biographer, A.J. Ralston.

Secretary and treasurer to be selected by president.

Township vice presidents:

Butler, Albert Thrush.

Keyser, Eli W. Shull.

Richland, Chas. H. Bangs.

Fairfield, Park Seberts.

Smithfield, I.N. Cox.

Grant, Sheldon Crooks.  
Union, Jos. Rainier.  
Jackson, James Provines.  
Concord, S.W. Widney.  
Wilmington, Jacob Gunsenhouser.  
Franklin, John W. Brown.  
Troy, Luther Knisely.  
Stafford, Chas. Arford.  
Newville, Geo. DeLong.

On motion of the secretary the report was adopted as read.

Mr. Wm. H. McIntosh, of Auburn, one of the best posted men on county history in DeKalb county, was introduced as the speaker of the afternoon, and his address was clear cut, well delivered, and sounded a tone of ability and interest to the hearers, all of whom gave the best of attention. Mr. McIntosh spoke as follows:

### **Mr. McIntosh's Speech**

"Early Settlers of DeKalb County: You are here assembled to commemorate your experiences in a new country and to continue the friendships formed by congenial association during a period fraught with trying vicissitudes.

"Distance of time cannot dim the panorama of the past. No haze can obscure a retrospective view. Memory may dwell with satisfaction upon that forethought that looked to the future and steadily kept that landmark in view.

"Inspired by resolute purpose, all obstacles were not removed. The clearings multiplied and spread. The furrowed soil produced abundantly, until was established in the wake of axe and plow the perfection of modern civilization.

"Honored by your confidence, I am handicapped by age and know my inability to picture in fitting words the by gones of old repassing in dreamy view.

"Truth rivals fiction in relating the story of individual, yet harmonious effort which has developed beyond all precedent. The story of how the pioneers settled upon their greater sections and rudely awakened a primeval forest from an undisturbed slumber of unknown ages.

"Following the Star of Empire on its westward course, led by hope of betterment, your parents migrated to DeKalb from eastern homes, whereon they toiled and suffered that you and your posterity might live in peace and comfort.

"Dills and Ward, Kelly and Penfield, Powers and Bowersox, and others of your speakers have graphically portrayed the struggle and the triumph leading downward from "Then" till "Now," from natural domain to far advanced civilization.

"Farms carved from the forest are cultivated by sons and grandsons of pioneers whose government patent certified by signature of a Chief Executive, merits such consideration as veterans bestow upon an honorable discharge.

"Those deeds of entry call to mind original owners whose last living representatives stand upon the verge of dissolution, and over whom are fast gathering the



impenetrable shadows of oblivion.

"The character of our pioneer men and women, their virility and endurance and their splendid achievement linger in the memory of their children to be handed down to their descendants by tradition, but reality is becoming indistinct, and will pass beyond recovery.

"Your biographer has made known annually the inroads upon the numbers of early settlers, and you are saddened by reflections that long familiar faces will never be seen again. Wrinkles have creased their features, footsteps have become uncertain, they wearied of existence, and have passed over the mystic river to where blooms the tree of life immortal and where the restful fields of Eden are forever green.

"Relentless time in silence continually widens the chasm which separates past from present, and ever more remote becomes the date when DeKalb county became your home.

"Reverting to the sunny side of life, you may indulge happy recollections of that olden day when faith was strong and hope was buoyant; when hardships were endured and privations undergone, while the basis was established of a stable progress by laborious reclamation of primitive forest to the excellence of modern agriculture.

"The all-powerful, ever operating law of change has swept away most tangible evidences of the olden day. Stumps have rotted in the fields, log houses have been torn down or stand dismantled and deserted. Fences have been removed and no stock runs at large.

"Former modes of farming have been superceded by others superlatively better. Pioneer implements of husbandry are relics of hand labor. The sickle and the flask have disappeared with the yoked oxen. Old things have passed away, and all things have become new. There can be no return to the rude primitive, and no return is desirable.

"Years ago a strange disorder known as the epizootic attacked the horse, and compelled temporary resort to use of the ox, and city residents gazed in curiosity at yoked cattle hauling wagon loads of merchandise along the streets for shipment or delivery. The incident was illustrative of the progress of the age in the single line of transportation.

"Customs have changed and pioneers and children of the pioneers have kept step and changed with them. Old settlers you are as the registry attests, but no style of apparel, no quaintness of speech, no eccentricity of manner marks you as a class apart from up-to-date members of the numerous societies which represent the fashionables of the day.

"Each personality leads more or less of a double life--the one the public seems to know--the other the real and unknown. This latter glories in pioneer ancestry, permanent residence, purity of character and spotless reputation.

"Not all the pioneers have departed to the "Land of the Leal." There yet remains a scanty few who have been passed by the grim harvester to be gleaned later on.

"There are missing some who from infirmity cannot endure the fatigue of travel, and would enhance this meeting by their presence. In their enforced retirement they cherish

remembrances of the old times in the early day,. Deep in reveries and dreams they realize the shadowy visitation of life-long friends, and blend indissolubly the real with the ideal.

"To ourselves and them, the Almighty has been good, and blessings have come bountifully from his infinite love for humanity. To Him we render grateful praise. Foremost of those favors stands that reason with attribute of memory which cheers the loneliness of age with early recollections.

"As a whole, the old timers have been inured to labor and have had their share of trouble, but the sweet has been coming led with the bitter, and to most have been given seasons of relaxation and opportunities for enjoyment.

"Veteran soldiers at reunions meeting comrades of the battle-field, delight in reminiscences of camps and marches and nights of vigilance and peril, so, on this occasion may you veteran residents of DeKalb enjoy this annual gathering and greeting of old-time friends and neighbors, recounting notable raisings and revivals, election days and celebrations.

"To some this day is a last golden opportunity, It is well to make the most of it, to them no other will be given. Over them the twilight already casts its shadows, and night of forgetfulness is about to descend forever.

"Some features of old times are imperishable, but the life you lived, the drudgery you knew, exists no longer. The oak and the beech, the maple and the tamarack have been felled, and saw mills have had their day. The ace rings no more in the clearing, nor does the breaking plow furrow the virgin sod. No sowers go forth to sow, for the seeder does more and better work, and the drill has relieved the hoe in the corn-field. No cradlers lay swathes of ripened grain, no flails thump barn floors, for reapers cut, bind and bunch the sheaves, and threshers steam-driven, transfer the straw to stacks while automatically recording the bushels bagged.

"The farmer drives no more to distant market to dispose of produce, for way-side station and town depot afford him nearby purchases.

"Grandmother sits no more before the open fire-place on winter evenings knitting. Mother no more plies the needle upon home-spun and calico. Factories provide hose and clothing houses supply ordered or ready-made dress and business suits.

"Do you not remember choppings and loggings, huskings and quiltings, the neighboring prayer-meetings and the evening spelling, writing and singing schools to which you went on foot, ox-sled or horse-back along wood paths?

"Today, the farmers well-to-do frequent the towns in buggies and in autos, to trade, to visit, to witness base ball games, or listen of an evening to the music of a cornet band.

"What advance is known of mail facilities! Where the post-rider delivered and occasional wax-sealed letter, and was paid a quarter of a dollar, the carrier daily comes, bringing and removing you prepaid correspondence to and from you very doors. Look where you will, the contrasts of past



with present are tremendous. How like a tale of the Arabian Nights would be the true story of evolution from the rude primitive homes and public buildings of the pioneer era to the erection of elegant residences and the construction of township school houses costing ten thousand dollars, and of a county court hose involving a quarter million.

"Remarkable is the fact that the high rates of taxation required to meet such expenditure is more easily endured with less delinquency than were the insignificant assessments of those distant days when poverty was the rule and none were wealthy.

"I wonder whether any one of you revering its past, has left standing in

Continued to Page Eight

Page 8 - Cols. 3,4,5,6

### THE OLD AND YOUNG CELEBRATE TOGETHER

the background of your present abode, that round or hewed log house wherein you passed your childhood and knew your greatest happiness.

"A dear friend of mine, a son of the first settler of Rochester on the Genesee, wrote to his early home in simple touching fondness that may strike an answering chord in your hearts.

"Back on the misty track of time, in  
memory's flickering light,  
I view the scenes of other days, like  
meteors in the night.  
The garden with its low built fence  
with stakes and withes to tie it,  
The rude log house, my early home,  
the one hard maple by it.  
Gay were the sports engaged in then,  
when childish hands were twined.  
And echoing woods brought back to us  
our voices in the wind;  
The wild birds perched on bended  
spray sang much to our delight  
The robin's reveilli at dawn, the whip-  
por-will by night.  
But leaves are scattered not more wild,  
by Autumn's winds uphurled,  
Than all that group of faces bright  
upon the wide, wide world:  
But still on memory's page in light  
which time cannot destroy  
Stand out those scenes, that home and  
tree, a lost yet sacred joy."

Posterity inherits a love of the chase, but woods and game and old-time hunter have alike vanished. The rifle used in providing venison has become a relic and numerous licenses



are issued in the season for permission to shoot rabbits. The blue pigeons which flew in spring and fall in countless numbers, flock following flock in far extending front, between their forest roasts and feeding grounds, are extinct. No partridge drums upon the fallen tree nor quail pipes his cheery call from the top rail of the pasture fence.

"In vain, you seek to realize the old ideal for there are changes everywhere. Enter a school room and you will hear no Scripture read at "taking up" see no reading or spelling class aligned upon the floor, no seats for recitation, but each pupil has his separate seat and desk, the slated blackboards and pencil crayons are excellent and text books uniform. Old time religion is out of date. Church bells on Sabbaths ring in vain an invitation to the wordling while a scheduled game of base ball attracts a throng of pleasure seekers.

"Your thoughts are directed to the old school days under instruction of Hendricks and Clark, Colgrove and Faurot and to meetings held by pioneer preachers such as Cather and Hadsell, M.S. Curdy and Ward.

"Sickness and disease assail the body, as they ever will, but disorders have new names and different treatment, while the drastic drugs prescribed by doctors like Ford and Mercer, Larimore and Emanuel, are not employed by up-to-date practitioners. Those old time physicians were faithful to their patients and on foot or horse back responded to the call of distress, more influenced to lessen suffering than to increase wealth. This is the day of the automobile and the electric car, and our doctors make their rounds with speed and luxurious ease.

"The courts still convene and juries are impaneled to render verdicts between plaintiff and defendant but it is a far cry since Morris and Dickinson practiced in the DeKalb Circuit Court, since Morrison and Rickle had offices in the now razed court house and Pinchin led the Butler contingent to attend the opening of each term.

"Striving strenuously for the betterment of humanity, the inventor and the capitalist have achieved an extraordinary success. Clover is hulled, corn husked and hay baled by machinery, and even the drudgery of milking and churning have their remedy.

"Travel has reached perfection in speed and comfort and in the fore-ground long trains rush by upon a trunk line railroad at the startling rate of seventy miles an hour.

"It were no well to overlook the home newspaper which brings to cultured communities the knowledge of things done, doing and to be done. It was not till 1853 that the initial number of "The Democratic Messenger," founded by the enterprise of Pierce and Berry in Auburn, was issued June 16, and delivered by the carrier, Joseph Loveland. In this hard school of experience Kermy and Baxter were trained and later ventured upon their own account.

"The Waterloo Press of sterling worth, long years published by the late soldier-editor Frank Willis, holds unequalled record for stable continuous issue and high moral and patriotic editorial.

"Finally, it is inevitable that the past so interwoven in your lives will measurably be inevitably lost at your demise, but its fruits indissolubly blended with the growing products of the present, will remain to bless posterity.

"But a panorama of DeKalb in course of settlement will never entertain posterity. The "Then" can only be surmised by "Now." The lives, the labors, the triumphs and the failures of the pioneers will never now be written. As soldiers dying bear with them the only accurate knowledge of some action in which they were engaged, so the passing of pioneers and early settlers renders it more and more impossible to truthfully portray the history of DeKalb's settlement.

"Yet a few years and you venerable men and women survivors of the olden days will have been gathered to the pale realm of shade and your descendants will seek in vain to know its marvelous achievements.

"Well you have borne your past, deserved this strong enconium and now your responsibility has shifted to other shoulders, and to the residents of today you have entrusted the preservation and further betterment of all material and substantial interests laboriously acquired and started on their way.

"While thousands have restlessly migrated from state to state in search of better homes and greater wealth you have been satisfied to permanently remain in this county and have found its capabilities exceptionally excellent.

"A fall festival exhibits what intelligent industry may produce from fertile soil, farms and towns show the results of enterprise and you may probably rest upon laurels richly won.

"The old world pride of ancestry is based on titles but Americans trace descent from sturdy pioneers who have transformed a wilderness to a terrestrial paradise and established in the new world the greatest republic of ancient and modern times.

"It is a grand story, the depiction of an empire of sovereign states and its original organization. It is eminently proper that those who bore an humble part in this great work should come together annually, raise for the moment the curtain which conceals the past, bid its phantom actors reappear upon the stage of former action and mingle their rejoicings in the local and general prosperity.

"Our retrospection ends. From the past we turn to the future. You have borne with fortitude the grief of sore bereavements. There is no family exempt from irreparable loss. You have been consoled by an unfaltering trust in God, firm faith in immortality and eternal happiness beyond the grave.

"You have grown familiar with the infirmities of age and accepted its restrictions with resignation. One more journey you will make, and each must travel alone an unknown road. Centuries ago the Son ascended into Heaven to prepare a home for the ransomed. Shall we not hope in that bright realm to meet in glad reunion friends, neighbors and our kindred of the early days?

"Cheer up dear friends, take heart again in firm assurance that all the beauties of charming nature, all the

comforts of attractive homes bear no comparison with the allurements of the Better Land.

Dreams cannot picture a world so fair,  
Sorrow and pain may not enter there,  
Time does not breathe on the fadeless bloom,  
Beyond the stars and beyond the tomb.

After the address the Swift Orchestra played a selection and Miss Martha Wines gave a reading which was well received and very pleasing to the large audience.

#### BIOGRAPHER'S REPORT

Mr. A. J. Ralston, the biographer, made the following report of deaths since the last meeting, showing that 124 old settlers have passed away:

Elizabeth Luce, 67	___?___, Lyon ___?
Wm. Wallace, 82	E.A. Zerkle, 65
Samuel Firestone, 79	Joseph Weller, 84
Laura W. Kyle, 62	Amos Roberts, 70
Henry W. Long, 72	Ezra Hopkins, 77
Mary Topping, 83	John W. Pyle, 85
Samuel Williams, 71	Orlando Seery, 64
Chas. Kelley, 69	Isaiah Gibford, 70
G.W. Burns, 70	Lucinda Apple, 72
Mrs. W. Morgan, 65	Loren J. Duesler, 78
Henry Harvey, 67	Sarah McEnderfer, 76
Mrs. Peter Miser, 74	Sarah Meyers, 81
S.Z. Dickinson, 88	Mary J. Oden, 76
Mrs. Wm. Fee, 60	J.D. Leighty, 72
Pauline Rogers, 90	John Essig, 58
Fred Schlosser, 72	Martha Weirick, 81
Nancy Miller, 92	Dr. J.C. Bennet, 70
Park Mathena, 64	Robert Shippy, 77
Elizabeth Hughes, 89	Lewis Bowers, 89
S.M. Brandon, 50	Rachael Harmes, 78
William Meek, 79	Ann Sunonds, 72
Wm. Ashelman, 69	Loretta A. Smalley, 72
Andrew Vogtman, 78	John Kettle, 80
Michael Krontz, 80	Wm. Coburn, 87
Wilhelma Garver, 80	A.J. Sinclair, 79
Catherine Gehring, 71	Simon Aldrich, 79
Justin Girardot	Elizabeth Ramsey, 83
Jonathan Smalley	Wm. Healey,
John Acton, 69	Jas. G. Lawhead, 68
Henry Smith	Wm. L. Meese, 84
Cordelia E. Shaffer, 57	Martin Lehman, 83
Lewis R. Wasson, 65	Susan Wilson, 72
Peter Goul, 79	Almira Bryant, 69
Esther Sparks	S.U. Silbeny, 59



Sarah Holman, 69	Elmer Bishop, 51
John Barker,	Henry Husselman, 79
Minerva W. Sebring,	Ann Squires, 79
Lucy A. Reynolds, 79	Aaron D. Moore, 82
John Gramling, 77	C.W. Huffman, 86
Samuel George, 72	David Ball, 61
Julia Krahn, 78	Alpheus Wheelock, 84
Alonzo Gibson, 70	Caroline Miller, 75
Malinda Dove, 57	Jas. C. Ervin, 85
Nelson Chaney, 87	Adam Stroh, 71
Hiram S. Madden, 87	Frank Strebe, 81
Conrad Mann, 50	Warren McNabb, 56
James Kelham,	Wm. Smurr, 55
Sarah McBride, 49	Geo. W. Burns, 70
Frank Healey, 73	Calvin S. King, 48
Peter Reinohl,	Stephen Van Duesen, 79
Sabina Mason,	Ellen Griffith, 55
Peter Countryman, 80	Lewis J. Blair, 83
Frank W. Willis, 71	Catharine Grube, 90
James Leason, 52	Alex Freeman, 50
Martha Haynes, 62	Sol Sattison, 88
Isaac B. Brandon, 77	Margaret Smith, 73
Washington Betz, 67	L. Schroyer,
Perry Smurr, 65	Casper Camp, 84
Mrs. Michael Krantz, 79	Hamilton Hamman, 44
Howard F. McNabb, 47	Sarah J. Baughman, 74
Mrs. Harvey Treesh, 49	Mrs. Wm. Wagoner, 75
Elizabeth A. Franks, 79	Emma W. Husselman, 52

The Waterloo High School Male Quartet then appeared in their usual happy manner and after rendering a good selection Henry Link read a paper on reminiscences which was very interesting. This paper was prepared from facts gleaned from old settlers who Mr. Link had interviewed, and it proved to be a very interesting paper.

Capt. Manias Buchanan, of Portland, Ore., who at one time lived in this county, was present and was called upon for a short talk, which was responded to with interest. Wm. L. Blair, who has been in the county for seventy-eight continuous years, being the oldest settler in point of years in the county present, was called on and he made an interesting talk.

The president elect, Capt. M.B. Willis, of Auburn, was called on, and he bid the old settlers a welcome to attend the meeting at Auburn next year. It will be his endeavor to make the 1914 meeting an interesting one, and he will no doubt succeed.

The enterprising business men of Waterloo contributed some prizes which were distributed as follows:

Oldest man present, G.T. Abbey, aged 87, an Umbrella.  
 Oldest woman present, Mrs. Jacob Brand, 82  
 Ball throwing contest, Sheldon Crooks.  
 Nail driving contest, Mrs. Anthony Mergy.  
 String winding contest, Mrs. Anthony Mergy.

There were considerably more than 400 old settlers who registered and received badges, which were made as a souvenir at the suggestion of the executive committee, containing the picture of the deceased president, Frank W. Willis.

At the conclusion of the program in the park the crowd gathered on the down town streets and witnessed the parade of mounted Indians, and exhibition of cow boys and various amusements that attracted the young people.

The attendance at the afternoon meeting was close to 2,000 people, there being many who congregated in different parts of the park and on the streets about town, the seating capacity not being sufficient to accommodate all in the park. It was a red letter day for Waterloo, and the members of the executive committee, assisted by the local committee, made it possible to have what will be remembered as one of the best old settlers meetings that has ever been held in this county.

#### FIRE WORKS IN EVENING

In the evening the streets were well filled with people, and at many places it was impossible to walk through the crowds. The band gave a concert from the band stand, and a big display of fireworks were exploded from the stand at the corner of the band stand, and hundreds of people watched the pretty display of fire as it was pictured in the sky.

It was a late hour when the streets were cleared of the throngs of people who were having a good time. The untiring efforts of the local officers and the help of such men as Colonel Montavon, Deb Newcomer, Tom Baxter, Josiah Rufner, D.L. Leas, J.H. Reed, Frank Fisk and others, made the success of the meeting. Many old settlers expressed themselves as desirous of coming back to Waterloo for another meeting in the near future.

THE WATERLOO PRESS-----26 June 1913-----Pages 1,4,8

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE GRUHLKE COLLECTION OF OLD PISTOLS

One of the interesting features of the Old Settlers Meeting in Waterloo last Thursday was the museum arranged in the Owen building at the corner of Wayne and Marion streets, in which Mr. A.C. Gruhlke displayed a collection of pistols. Mr. Gruhlke has a collection that is very large and there are some rare specimens of weapons used several hundred years ago. In all he has nearly 500 specimens, well preserved, and many of them are in such state of preservation that they could be used today.

The collection was arranged in show cases and many people visited the collection during the day and evening. The extensive variety of guns and pistols will very easily trace the modern weapons as they are in use to-day. In his collection the oldest pistol is a Japanese gun made in the fifteenth century. He has a hand cannon made in the

sixteenth century, bearing on its bronze surface outlines of that era.

The Japanese is the smallest except one that ever came to this country and it measures two and three-quarter inches in length. The match lock, the flint lock, the pill lock, the tape lock, and the percussion cap are found in the collection, and they were so arranged that by each succeeding type the newer designs were shown.

An English pistol made in the seventeen century by a man named Mortimer is among the old guns; also a duplicate of the gun that killed President Lincoln and President McKinley. Another gun was carried through the civil war by P.C. Harris, a noted guerilla war chief.

One of the guns is a Japanese match lock and has a body of teak wood, the same wood of which Noah's ark was supposed to be built.

A sixteenth century flint lock was bought from a sailor who brought it from the Sandwich islands, where it is supposed to have been taken by Captain Cook on one of his voyages.

The collection owned by Mr. Gruhlke is the largest collection of this kind in this part of the state, and there are but few equals to the collection in size and rarity. The value placed upon this collection cannot be estimated, as the specimens are so rare that many of them are placed beyond the reach of dollars and cents.

THE WATERLOO PRESS-----26 June 1913-----Page 1 - Col. 3,4,5,

\*\*\*\*\*





**WILLIAM HENRY LEAS:** He secured his elementary education in the common schools, after which he engaged in pedagogical work, teaching first in the district schools and afterwards in the graded schools of Waterloo. Later he assisted Willard, Kingman and MacConahey in surveying and making of county maps in Ohio and Indiana.



CHARLES S. AND SUSAN L. (SHADE) ARFORD WITH DAUGHTER MILDRED F



**CAPT. MOSES B. WILLIS:** On the breaking of the Civil War Mr. Willis enlisted in September, 1861, in Company K, Forty-fourth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for three years, taking the place of his father, who had enlisted, but whom he persuaded to remain at home with his family, insisting that the younger men ought to be the first to go.





**HERBERT C. WILLIS:** Son of Frank W. and Josephine (Dickinson) Willis, upon the death of his father, he took charge of the editorial responsibilities of the Waterloo Press, one of the influential and popular journals of De Kalb county.



**DANIEL LEWIS LEAS:** He erected a two-story brick business block, which he occupied and there engaged in the dry goods business, handling ladies' and gents' furnishings, hats, caps, shoes, carpets, draperies, clothing and other auxiliary lines. In 1905 Mr. Leas bought the defunct DeKalb Bank at Waterloo, moved the fixtures to Hudson and organized what was known as the Hudson Bank.



**JAMES GEORGE LAWHEAD:** In his younger days Mr. Lawhead had been engaged to some extent in teaching school, but farming was his main vocation throughout his life, and in this vocation he attained an enviable success.





**ADAM STROH:** After moving to Waterloo, Mr. Stroh became quite active in local affairs and was elected councilman from the third ward, in which capacity he served four years, during which time he showed a progressive spirit in everything pertaining to the advancement of Waterloo, being found on the right side of every question involving business, social, educational or moral advancement.



**HON. WILLIAM M. MERCER, M.D.:** The spring of 1854, he entered upon the practice of his profession at Fairfield Centre, De Kalb County. This section at that time was comparatively new and sparsely settled by men of small means, who, nevertheless, to the Doctor's advantage, were subject to the ills to which flesh is heir, and he had an extensive practice during the summer season, which upon settling the following winter he found to exceed his most sanguine expectation.



**ANDREW VOGTMAN FAMILY**

Andrew was born at the family home near Kasel, Germany. He learned the blacksmith trade at an early age. He came to America in 1849 at the age of sixteen years, and worked for a blacksmith in Ohio. Andrew and Rosina migrated farther west and came to DeKalb County, Indiana, settling on a farm north of Auburn, Indiana. Andrew was a farmer by trade.



Abbey, G.T.	165	W.J.	159,166	Bennet, Dr. J.C.	201
G.F.	172	Bally, Margaret	125	Bensinger, Eli	137
G.T.	152,172,192,202	Bangs, Chas. H.	192	Berry, Mr.	199
Giles	174	Family	194	Betz, Washington	202
Mrs. G.T.	174	Barber Family	20	Beugnot, C.	12,62
Abbott Family	20	Barclay, Mrs.	136	Bianey, Ella	116
Aber, J.	62	Priscilla	117	Bidler Family	20
John F.	119	Barker, D.J.	135	Bishop, Elizabeth	159
Mr.	63	John	202	Bishop, Elmer	202
Able, Abigail L.	52	Barlett Family	20	Family	20
Electa	52	Barndon, Moses	24	G.A.	162
Henry J.	52	Barnes, J.A.	34,173	M.T.	114,135
James H.	52	Barney, B.F.	135	Mrs. Willis	116
Action, John	201	George	52	Peter	137
Adair, Judge	172,173	Mr.	47	Willis	116,159,167
Akins, Hollis	175	Sol.	53,72,131,135	Bixler, Anna	126
Aldrich Family	21	Squire	139,186	Blair, B.F.	2,4,71,73
Isaac T.	96	Barnhart, Elisa	22	Benj.	100,157,163
J.	157	Hiram	129	Family	139
L.J.	157	John	137	Blair, Caroline	157
Allen Family	20	Solomon	159	Corwin E.	183
Ira	96	Barns, Mrs. A.	102	Family	20
Altenberg, D.W.	180	Mrs. J.A.	172	Gen.	13,47,48,49,59
Altenburg, D.	1,3	Bartlett, Arline	172	63,71,74,81,82,98,102	
Daniel	78	Charles	51	107,113,120,130,143	
Family	20	S.H.	152	145,163	
Mrs. D.	115	Simon	111	Gen. L.J.	46,123,136
Alton, Benjamin	94	Bashelier, Henry	1,162	John	96,180,183
Cyrus	40,65	Bassett, S.	1	L.J.	13,58,79,107
Family	20	Bates, Mrs.	117	108,111,113,114,124	
Andrews, Allen P.	129	Baughman Family	20	140,141	
Ansett, John	174	John	63	Lewis J.	111,183,202
Apple, Lucinda	201	Sarah J.	202	Mary	105
Arford, Charles F.	186	Baxter, A.J.	111	Mr.	155
Chas.	195	Andrew	114	W.L.	43,46,58,59,63
Robert	87,139	Andrew J.	121	74,86,87,88,89,98,100	
Robt.	63	C.K.	13	104,105,119,138,145	
Armstrong Family	20	Cory L.	165	152,159,177,186,187	
Arthur, Bass	164	Family	21	W.M.	149
Ashelman, C.	62	Hellen	116	William	173
Family	20	J.W.	34,115	William L.	51,147
Wm.	201	James B.	125	Wm.	152,154,173
Ashley, Mrs. N.	174	John	172	Wm. L.	140,192,183
Babcock Family	20	Miles	165,166	185,202	
Bachtel, Jacob	102	Tom	203	Blake, A.S.	23
Bailey, Amy	175	Beaber, Eliza	137	Blaker Family	21
Benjamin S.	78	Beadley, W.	98	Mrs. David	124
Family	20	Beard Family	21	Blaney, Ella	167
Baird, John	116	George	126	Bleeks, Geo.	115
Sarah E.	175	J.D.	63,74	Geo. W.	165
Baker, C.H.	115	Beidler, Bert	162	Mary	165
Henry	175	Mrs. John	137	Mrs. G.	115
John W.	88	Bell Family	20	Bliss, Rev. James T.	65
Mahlon	135	John	157	Blodgett, A.	3
Ball, David	202			Arnold	115
Family	20,21				

Nancy J.	175	Bratton, Mrs. Mary	137	Butler, Daniel	22, 53
P.	62	Braun, Ella	167	David	22, 52, 53
Boland, M.	88, 162	Breckbill, Lizzie	175	Butt, Jno.	13
Mr.	98	Briggs, Sophia	175	John	1, 4, 43, 47, 51, 59
Bone, Lucetta	108	Brinkerhoff, James	22		63, 84, 163
Bontrager, Margaret	129		23	Mr.	63
Boots, John S.	73	Brinkerhoff		Calkin, E.E.	105
Boozer, Warells	175	James H.	125	Paulus N.	101
Boren, John R.	137	Brooks Family	20	Calkins Family	20
Morris H.	129	Brosy, Mr.	111	Camp, Casper	202
Mrs. J.R.	137	Rev.	130	Chas.	139
Bowers, Lewis	23, 201	Rev. J.D.	107	Oliver J.	174
Bowersox, Judge	139	Brown, Burton	120	Susannah	175
Bowersox		Emmet	174	Campbell, Edward	111
Judge C.A.	140	Family	20	Hannah	9
Bowersox		Geo. A.	167	James	9
Judge C.A.	149	Hannah E.	137	Margaret	137
Bowman, C.	3, 63, 79, 82	Henry	2, 9	Carleton, Will	108
Cyrus	4, 9, 13, 43, 47	Brown		Carmer, A.J.	108
51, 58, 59, 71, 73, 86, 87		Hon. Chas. M.	164	Carnahan, W.S.	115
98, 163		John	120	Carnanhan, Samuel S.	63
Family	21	John W.	192, 195		
H.W.	135	Lewis	167	Carper, Adam	157
James	137	Louis	159	Jacob	117
Rebecca	175	Mary	117	Carr Family	20
Sarah	4	Nancy	129	James Findlay	101
Sarah A.	167	Rev.	154	Nancy D.	84
Wm.	167	Rev. David	79	W.	71
Boyer, Balias	174	W.B.	88	William	3, 4, 43, 51, 59
Balis	138, 157	Wm.	115		79, 163
Baylis	115	Brumback, J.M.	47	Wm.	8, 13, 47, 62, 63, 82
Caroline	117	Brumbeck, J.M.	51, 87		84, 87
Cyrus C.	126		89, 98, 105	WM.	88
Family	21	Jessie	89	Wm.	89, 98, 100, 105
J.A.	136	Bryan, Geo.	115		108, 115, 130, 131, 152
Mary	116	Bryant, Almira	201		165
Mrs. M.M.	137	Buchanan, Albert	111	Carter, Thomas	162
Boyer			166	Case, Emillus	22
Rebecca Houlton	101	Buchanan		J.W.	23
Boyle, E.J.	74	Capt. Manias	202	James W.	23
John W.	137	George	173	Joseph	174
Jonathan	22, 52, 87	J.	82, 84	Casebeer, A.S.	3
109, 124, 132, 135, 136		John	79	Andrew S.	180
		Buck Family	21	Family	21
		Bundange, Louisa A.	124	J.R.	63
Brand, Mr.	146			Casebeer	
Mrs. Jacob	202	Bunge, Caroline	159	Miss. Fannie	81
Rev. A.H.	145	Burdick Family	21	Cather Family	21
Wm.	82	Burdie, Mrs.	13	Cather, James	66, 111
Brandeberry, Solomon	78	Burley Family	20		120
		Louisa	128	Jas.	40
Brandon, Isaac B.	202	Burns, G.W.	201	Lydia	125
John	51	Geo. W.	202	Rev.	199
S.M.	201	Robert	15	Catlin Family	20
Brandt, George	22	Burtnett, Mrs. H.	117	Chaffee	
Isaac	24	Burtzner, Susannah	137	Benjamin A.	20, 101

Chaney, Eliza	116	Coleman, J.J.	166	Robert	22,53,72,79
Lizzie	53	Colgrove, Mr.	199		82,86,87,89,98
Milton	116	Coll, E.M.	98,148,157	Culver, Samuel	167
Nelson	202	Family	21	Cummins, Margaret	163
Chapman, Columbus	125	Phoebe	157	Cummins	
Charney, Milton	166	Collins, Sarah	175	Mrs. Margaret	10
Cherry, J.M.	165	Colvin, Rev.	113	Cupp, Catharine	165
Mary J.	116	Comeskey, Chas.	137	H.H.	116
William	65	Catherine	89	Hiram	159
Child, P.D.	177	Cook, John	167	Mathias	157,165
Childs, P.D.	98,138	Cool, Daniel	51	Curdy, M.S.	199
	139,141,166	Family	20	Curie, Delora	135
W.	2,63	Isaac	51	Dahuff, Geo.	102
Willard	59,71,89	Copp, Mrs. Abner	135	Dailey, Thomas	2
Christoffel Family	20	Corcoran, Lena	183	Thomas D.	3
Jacob	73,157	Cornell, Mary M.	129	Daily, T.D.	13,59
Church, Rev. C.W.	62	Samuel	129	Thomas	87
Clark, E.E.	141	Corwin Family	21	Thomas D.	89
Henry	3,20	Cosper Family	20	Daniels Family	21
Jane	117	J.R.	2,13,43,71,73	Mr.	103
Jefferson	186		74,82	R.G.	3,4,82,89,98
John	163,177	James R.	125	104,105,111,113,114	
John C.	186	Jas. F.	2	119,136,163	
John N.	2,109	Jimmy	63	R.J.	2,60,100
Milt	150	Countryman, A.B.	44	Danks Family	21
Mr.	199	Peter	202	Dannells, Willis A.	167
Mrs. Orrin	137	Cowley Family	20	Davenport, F.E.	174
D.C.	1,2,4,13,34,46	Cox, I.N.	141,194	Daves Family	20
59,62,64,71,79,82,84		Coy, Anna	157	Davis, John L.	88
88,89,98,100,104,105		Crain Family	21	Dawson Family	20
107,119,139,163,177		Cramer, John	116	Hon. R.J.	10
Orrin	138	John C.	165	R.E.	25
Orrin C.	51,87	Mrs. John	116	Reuben J.	26
Clay Family	20	Crary, Rev. N.	72,73	Dearborn	
Clouse, Mrs.	117	Rev. N.J.	90	Benjamin R.	126
Coats, C.J.	107	Crooks Family	20	Deems, Jane	159,167
Family	20	Henry	129	Rebecca	159
Rebecca	14	R.N.	13,71,82,84,89	William	159
Cobbler Family	20		109,139	Deetz, Adam	109
Jane	63	Robert N.	87	Anna	116
Cobler, Nancy C.	159	Sheldon	195,202	John	116
Coburn, Asher	95	William	51	Deforest, Daniel	78
Charles M.	52	Crowl, John	114	De Forrest Family	20
Family	20	Croy, Rev. H.A.	124	Deihl Family	20
J.F.	1	Culbertson, A.	167	Isaac	3
John F.	9,65	Family	20	DeLong, Eb.	175
R.G.	22,59,63,71,72	H.R.	88,114,162,186	DeLong Family	20
73,89,108		Hugh	152	DeLong, G.F.	138
Wm.	201	Culbertson		Geo.	105,195
Cochran, D.	62	Mayor H.R.	178	George	20,141
Mr.	63	Miss	84	George F.	59
Coder, Isa	81,82	Culbertson		Jane	157,166
Coe Family	20	Mrs. J.R.	135	Solomon	96
Cole, Cornelia P.	4	Nancy	53	Denison, George O.	173
Coleman, C.P.	3	R.	3,4,8,13,43,63,82	Mayor	172,173
J.J.	159		84,163		



Dennison, George	178	Duck Family	21	Lavina	165
George O.	177	Simpson	166	Rachel	159
Dermott, Jacob	53, 137	Duesler, Loren J.	201	Erehart, Maria	108
Mrs. Jacob	137	Duncan, Andrew	114	Ervin, Jas. C.	202
Deubner, Lizzie	175		152	Mrs.	89
Devore, Mariah	159	Andrew B.	165	Erwin, Edward	166
Dewitt Family	20	Mrs. A.	114	Esselburn, Sarah	117
Dickinson, Ezra	73	Eakright, A.	71	Essig Family	20
Mary	51	Abraham	4	J.W.	167
Mr.	199	Family	20	John	201
Rebecca	126	Easterday, Susana	120	Martha	165
S.W.	23	Eberly, Jonas	108	Ettinger, W.M.	166
S.Z.	165, 179, 201	Echert, Sebastian	89	Fair, Abraham	10, 20
Dickinson		Eckhart, Chas.	88		163, 180
Samuel W.	101	Mrs. Will	130	Anna	63
T.R.	23	Eddy Family	21	Charles	20
Timothy	23	Willard	138	Christina	137
Diehl, Isaac	78	Edgerly, Anna	73	D.W.	104, 108, 114
Diehm, Peter	167	Samuel	78	Mrs. Wm.	114
Dilgard, Eliza	167	Egness, George	180	Peter	96
Dilgard		Egnew, Alice	14	Sarah	166
Hannah (Goodwin)	102	Family	20	Sarah A.	157
Dilgard, J.E.	139, 140	George	2	W.H.	138, 157, 166
	143	Ehlers, Mary E.	81, 82	William	114, 177
Jonas	136	Eichelberger, L.	105	Wm.	111, 131
Lovina	98	Elastings, B.M.	108	Fales Family	20
Dillman, Lucinda S.	84	Eldridge, Thos.	175	H.H.	52
Dills, J.W.	135	Ellis Family	20	Mrs. H.H.	52
John W.	53	Ellison, Andrew	59	Family Family	21
Mr.	75	Ellison, Hon. Andrew	8	Farney, Sol.	147
W.	71	Ellison		Farrington, Elsie	157
W.H.	4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13	Hon. Andrew	163	Sophia	157
14, 34, 43, 44, 47, 48, 58		Elson, Olive	123	W.	47
59, 62, 63, 64, 71, 73, 74		Emanuel, C.E.	114	Farrington	
79, 80, 82, 89, 163		Charles E.	174	Wellington	119
William H.	51	Dr.	22, 63, 199	Farrington	
Dirrim Family	21	Dr. J.	59, 87	Wellington M.	51
Hannah	105	Dr. Jonas	89	Farver, Mary A.	175
Margaret E.	102	Jonas	53, 71	Faurot, Mr.	199
Mary A.	126	Embra, William	2	Feagler, Eliza	137
Ditmar, Lois G.	166	Embry, William	114	Family	20
Mrs. L.E.	157	Embrys Family	20	Henry	1, 3, 44, 96
Ditmars, Isaac	117	Emerick, George	1	John	114
Mrs. Peter	117	Emerson Family	21	Joshua	180
Dodge, Anthony	108	W.R.	13, 43, 47, 51, 58	Lydia	116
Family	20	82, 87, 88, 89, 100, 105		Mary A.	116
Dove, Malinda	202		109	Mrs. Wm.	114
Draggo Family	20	William	4, 163	W.A.	157
Frank	175	Wm.	2	Wm.	114
Geo.	115	Wm. R.	84	Fee, Mrs. Wm.	201
George W.	53	Engle, Cynthia	52	Filley, Alex	135
James	3	John	74	Finch, Rev.	77, 78
Samantha	116	Ensley, George	1	Finney Family	20
Samuel	52	Mr.	63	Firend, Flosinda	165
William	53	N.	3, 12, 62	Firestone, Caroline	
Wm.	98	Enzor, Hiram	165		159

Family	21	Friend, Norris	165	Goul, Peter	201
Geo.	89		186	Grambling, Frank	115
George P.	1	Fulk, Charles	101	Gramling, John	202
S.J.	159	Family	20	Grate, Isaac	105
S.K.	111	Fuller, N.T.	87,89	Green Family	20
Samuel	201		114,131	Mary	157
Fisher, Abgraham	175	Nathan	111	T.D.	163
E.	47	Funk, Jacob	175	Greenwalt, Clara	166
Elias	51,58,108	John J.	166	Gregg Family	20
Family	20	Lucy	157	Griest, David	157
John	78	Fusselman, Henry	65	John	157
Sarah	78	Garrett, M.E.	162	Margaret	157
Fisk, Frank	203	Rosanna	108	Griffin, Perry E.	137
Mary	115	Garver, Wilhelma	201	Griffith, Ellen	202
R.J.	115	Garwood, Mrs.	108	N.	3,4,43,63,82,84
Fitch, Nathaniel	20	Gee, Elizabeth	116		163
Perry	129	Harlow	53	Nelson	59,102
Flint, Anna	117	Harmon	53,115,125	S.A.	4
Hannah	9	Geisinger, John	117	Griswold, Frank E.	79
Lemuel	44	George Family	20	Hiram	23
S.G.	108	John T.	100	James	23,129
Fluke, Philip	23,60	Mathew	81	Whead.	24
	137	Samuel	202	Grob, Israel H.	128
Foltz, E.C.	115	Getting, John C.	174	Grogg, Sarah	106
H.J.	116	Getts, Isaac H.	137	Groh, Lovina	129
Ford, Clark	24	Gibford, Isaiah	201	Susan	165
Cook	162	Gibson, Alonzo	202	Gross, T.D.	1,2,4,8,9
Dr.	1,2,12,22,23,34	Gilham, C.C.	150		34
	46,63,162,199	Gilhams, Hon. C.C.	139	Tom	24
Dr. J.H.	13,43,49,62		140	Grube, Catharine	202
Henry W.	102	Gillett, Charles	4	Cevilla	167
J.H.	3,44,48,115	Ginder, Elizabeth	159	Henry	157
Sam	24	Martha	166	Peter	105
Steve	24	Mrs.	116	Gruhlke, A.C.	173,203
T.C.	165,173,177	P.D.	166	Mr.	204
Forsythe, Mary	124	Gingrich, Daniel	116	Guild, Rev. T.M.	119
Fosdick, E.W.	13	Family	20	Guilford, Alex	174
Edward W.	125	Girardot, Justin	201	Gulid, Rev. T.M.	123
Family	20	Glaxier, Charles	114	Gunsenhouser, Ann	115
Foster, Ida	117	Goetschius, A.D.	2,3		166
Francis		Goetschius		E.	159
Franklin Carlton	124	Abigail (Barnes)	101	Henry	115,138,166
Franks		J.M.	85	I.	108
Elizabeth A.	202	James	1	Isaac	114,152,159
Frantz, Christian	102	Jimmy	63		165,173,177,194
Frech, Rev. Dr.	143	Goodrich, David	74	J.J.	44,107
Freeman, Alex	202		116,157	Jacob	114,136,159
Edmund	129	Goodwin, Leander S.			186,195
George	82		120	Mary	44
Freeman, James	167	Gordon, G.W.	1,3,81	Mr.	90
Thomas J.	40,41	82,88,100,108,114,162		Gushwa Family	20
Fretz, Esther	126	Geo. W.	77,141	Jonathan	157
John	117,174	George W.	78	Mary A.	101
Frick, Henry	129	Marshal	78	P.	2
John	100	Mrs. G.W.	116	Philip	3,4,63
Wm. G.	186	Gorrell, Wm.	73	Phillip	163

Guthrie, Mrs.	98	J.W.	88	Hoff, Jeanette	179
Hablawets, Anton	175	Joel E.	166	Hoffman, D.Z.	4,12,43
Hackley Family	20	Judge	128	87,89,98,100,104,105	
Hadley, Jesse	9	Miss. Mabel	81	107,111,113,114,119	
Hadsell, B.A.	107,108	Mr.	98		131
135,136,140		Sarah	166	Family	20
Byron	111	Hartsuck, Rev.	47	Flora	103
James	40	Harvey, Henry	116,201	Lydia	51
Marshall	135	Hathaway, Hannah M.	9	M.L.	114
Mary	52	Lucian	166,175	Miss	63,84,130
Rev.	199	Haynes		Mr.	98
Hague, Auditor	24	Mariam (Mead)	121	Mrs. C.C.	174
Hague, Isaac	88,89	Martha	202	Nancy A.	121
114,119,123,131,165		Headley, D.C.	89	Hogue, Cornelia	125
Isaac-P.	79	Family	20	F.A.	167
Ruth C.	128	Samuel	1,3,4,163	Family	20
Haines, Charles	82	Headly, Samuel	44	Isaac	152
Harriet	159	Healey, Frank	202	John	3,4,163
Mrs. Sam	119	Wm.	201	Holbrook Family	20
Hall, Elizabeth	89	Heberling, Mr.	64	Holden, Lucy H.	63
Emily C.	63	Heckathorn, Wm.	175	Holibrook, Lewis	13
Hallam, T.	62	Height, John	116	Hollister, S.	62
Haller, Daniel	89	Helts, Rebecca	121	Holman, Sarah	202
Hallett, Elisha P.	121	Helwig Family	20,21	Holmes Family	21
Hamilton, James M.	53	Isaac	120	Holton, William	177
John	159	Hemstreet Family	21	Hood, Henry	139
Ursula	159	Jerry	2	Hoodlemier, Leonard	
Hamman, Hamilton	202	Hendericks			128
John	60	Dr. Joel E.	102	Hoover, Jacob B.	102
John W.	137	Henderson Family	20	Hopkins, Ezra	201
Mrs. Thomas	137	James	121	L.J.	1,162
Hammond, Anna	157	Mary J.	166	Sarah	175
Family	21	Matilda	98	Hose, Solomon	175
John	2	Mrs. William	52	Hosier, Lew	115
Hand, Mariah L.	175	Samuel	180	Houghton, D.K.	8
Handy Family	20	W.	63	Dry	24
Hanes, Andrew A.	174	William	22,43,52,174	Family	135
C.	47	Wm.	73,82,89,124	Mrs.	14,23
Charles	51	Hendricks, Mr.	199	Mrs. D.C.	13
Hanna, S.D.	90	Hendry, A.W.	85,89	Houk, Daniel	175
Harding, D.	44	Senator	85	Houlton, Eveline	44
George	59	Henry, J.C.	88	Family	21,149
Sol.	98,174	John C.	119	John	10,96,136,141
Hardy Family	20	Hicklin, Lewis	40	148,149,163,180	
Hare, Cyddie	8	Hickman, Rev. Lewis	38	M.K.	152
Mrs. C.S.	23	High, M.A.	167	Mr.	136
Harmes, Rachael	201	Hilkey, Amos	159,166	Mrs. Lewis	150
Harn, Barbara	129	B.F.	167	W.C.	139
Harris, P.C.	204	Samuel	166	Wm.	157
Harrison, Dr.	143	Hine, Mrs. H.S.	79	Houser, C.P.	34
Hart, Washington	175	S.H.	111	Hovarter, John	84
Hartman, Capt. E.D.	85	Hinman, Mrs. H.	137	Levi H.	125
E.D.	34,85,87,89,107	Hippenhammer, F.A.	174	Howard, Prof.	74
108,114		Hixon, Bennett	121	Howey, James R.	174
Hon. E.D.	2,59,104	Hodge, Julia (Mott)		Hoyt, Rev. W.	119
113			157	Huffman, C.W.	202



Hughes, Elizabeth	201	John Paul	71		124
Hull, J.	98	M.C.	115	Knisely Family	21
J.C.	135	Mrs. J.	23	Luther	177,195
Sarah A.	53	Mrs. M.C.	115	Mrs. D.D.	137
Sep.	53	Mrs. Samuel	63	T.J.	143
Huntsman, J.W.	166	Mrs. Thomas	167	W.W.	186
Hursh, Benjamin	53	Samuel	78	Knott, Henry H.	128
Family	20	Kagey, C.B.	114	Mrs. Henry	116
Husselman, D.Y.	12	Mary A.	116	S.M.	98
	107,108	Kain, Rev. D.F.	87	Koble, Barbara	175
Daniel	174	Karns, Mr.	9	Koch, Mary Ann	53
Emma W.	202	Keen, George	106	Komesky Family	20
Family	20,96	Keep Family	21	Kosht, Mrs. M.E.	117
Fannie	175	N.	163	Krahn, Julia	202
G.W.	3,43	Orin	120	Kreutz Family	20
Geo. W.	117	R.N.	4	Krider, Rev. L.M.	145
Henry	116,202	Kehlam, Ed. Jr.	131	Krise, Walter	137
M.J.	4	Kelham, Edward	186	Krontz, Michael	201
Mrs. W.	143		192	Krontz	
Sara	116	James	202	Mrs. Michael	202
Imhof Family	20	Kelley, Chas.	201	Kruger, Mrs. John	145
Imhoff, Eliza	166	Family	21	Krum Family	20,21
J.J.	78	Mrs. James	137	Rev. James A.	129
Theodore	152	Kelly, Freeman	100	Kruse, John	174
Ingman Family	20		104	Kryder, Mr.	145
Maria	4	Hon. Free.	63	Kuhlman, A.L.	162
Jackman Family	20,21	Hon. Freeman	104	Lin.	81,82
Isaac M.	126		119,123	Kunler, Henry	40
Mariah	105	Mr.	119	Kutzner, Isaac	51
Martin C.	129	Tom	111	Sylvester	125
Sarah	137	Kennedy, Frank	137	Kyle, Laura W.	201
Jackson Family	20	Kennedy		Langley, Rev. J.M.	72
Jacques, W.	3	Olive (Holmes)	125		73
Jefford Family	21	Samuel	82,174	Lanning, Miss.	63
Jeffords, J.W.	9,10	Kepler, Elias	137	Mrs. Geo.	130
James W.	14	Hannah B.	78	Larimore, Dr.	199
Jenkins, Catherine	53	Kessler, Paul	165	Latson, Charlotte	120
Henry	53	Susan	165	Family	20
Jenning Family	21	Kester, Dr.	82	J.J.	115
Jennings, Anna	157	Dr. A.A.	167	Mrs. Stephen	23
Catharine	14	John	89	Wm.	116
George	159	Kettle, John	201	Lawhead Family	20
Peter	102	Kimball, Mary	175	Isaac	53,84
Wm.	157	King, Calvin S.	202	J.G.	159
Johnson, Abraham	52	Kiplinger, Andrew	166	Jane	52
James	3	M.	141	Jas. G.	201
Margaret	78	Michael	152	Martha	52
Roberty	53	Kiser, Peter	8	Mr.	47
Simpson	165	Kline, Ann	175	Samuel	53
T.M.	165	Kline, Anna	4	Lawrence, David	111
Uriah	117	Mrs. M.	116		124
Wm.	167	Klotz, Lizzie	117	Family	20
Jones Family	21	Rev.	140	Mrs. D.	116
Hannah R.	125	Knepper, Barbara	116	Learned Family	21
Harrison	115,125	Kneyut, Wm.	175	O.P.	59,63,71,74,79
Jane	9	Knight, William	52	Samuel	1

Sarah	44	Robert	155	N.H.	47
Leas, 'Gust	23	Lockwood, Alonzo	73	Nathan	2
Leas, D.L.	203	H.	105	Nathan H.	51
Fearne	192	Irven	105	Matthews, Dyer	155
H.K.	138,152	Mary E.	116	N.H.	3,59,63
John	71,74	Rosa	105	Pricilla	124
Sophia	51	Long, Henry W.	201	Maurer, Samuel	116,159
Wm. H.	192	M.F.	8,62,114,119	Maxwell, David	115
Lease, J.K.	149	Orsavilla	73	Family	20
Leason, James	202	Paul	3	George	53
Thomas	129	S.D.	3	Hugh	53
Leasure, John	1,162	Samuel D.	51	Mary	53
John H.	162	Lonsberry, Eva	53	Sarah A.	117
Mrs.	22	Lonsberry, J.M.	52	Wesley S.	108
Lehman, Martin	201	Losier, Peter	81	May, James	175
Lehner, Jacob	106	Loveland, Joe	24	Mrs. James	175
Leightly, Betsy A.	53	Joseph	199	Mays, Mrs.	13
Elizabeth	81	Lower, Andrew L.	166	Mrs. T.C.	12
J.D.	47,52,53,58,84	Solomon	174	T.C.	1,3,4,162
100,105,145,166,201		Luce, C.W.	166	McAllister Family	21
J.W.	82	Elizabeth	201	McAnnally, J.D.	3,108
Jacob D.	51	Harmon	116	Mary	117
John	53,137	Henry	165	McBride, Sarah	202
Mr.	47	Lung Family	20	McClarry, Lina	165
Mrs. Ed.	135	Paul	78	McClellan, C.A.O.	13
Mrs. John	53	Philip	121	113,114,119	
William	53	Susan	63	Chas. A.O.	121
Lew Family	21	Lutes, Mrs. Samuel	174	Daniel	44
Lewis, Alice M.	162	Lutson, Evaline	175	Family	21
Family	20	Lutz, Elizabeth	174	J.Y.W.	162,167
Mrs.	63	Family	20	James	114
Mrs. A.	12,13,62,164	John	108	John	2,3,100
Lieghty, Jacob D.	51	Madden, Hiram S.	202	Judge	23,119
Mr.	47	William H.	126	Louisa	44
Lige, Mrs.	117	Magginis, H.W.	186	Mary	4
S.	117	Maginnis, Daniel	116	Mrs. C.A.O.	114
Lightnen, John	73	Mann, Conrad	202	Mrs. M.J.	137
Link, Henry	191,202	Family	21	William	125
Link, Holmes	108	Mann		Wm.	115
Link, Jacob	114	Matilda McEndarffer	76,101	McClintock, Jere.	131
Joseph	114,165	Marsh, James	78	Jerre.	139
Lucie	116	Mrs.	117	Jerry	141
Margaret A.	126	Thomas	167	McClish, Henry	59
Little, E.O.	162	Martin, Almira	4	McClung, H.C.	163
Littlefield, Mr.	13	John	129	R.C.	162
Livergood, Lovina	159	Mason, Alex H.	174	McClure, Alex	111
Lochner, Jacob	137	Mason		Family	21
P.P.	177	Harriet (Olds)	125	McConnell, Dr.	98
Lockhart, Hon. R.M.	149	Sabina	202	McCord, H.B.	162
J.M.	135	Masters, M.B.	117	McCosh Family	21
M.	135	Sarah	117	McCosper, Mary	82
Mr.	145	Mathena, Park	201	McCoy, Abraham	63
R.M.	13,58,74,128	Matheny, Mrs.	13	Elizabeth	102
131,135,136,139,140		Mathews, G.	115	McCrory, Nancy J.	84
145,152,174		M.H.	58	McCrum, James	51
				McCune, John	108

McCurdy Family	21	Mean Family	20	I.	157
Jno.	40	Means, Isabel	89	Montavon, C.E.	186
John	13,67,78	Mary E.	166	Colonel	203
Mrs. J.	159	R.C.	166	Moody, B.F.	43,59,105
Rev.	13	Meek, John	129	Family	20
Rev. John	8,13,79	William	201	Jack	53
McDaniel, Anna	4,175	Meese, Amanda	53	Jackson	22
D.	3	Family	20	Mrs. J.R.	10,163
Family	20,21	Mrs. Isaac	135	Mrs. John R.	44
James	116	Rev. W.L.	105,115	Mrs. Sophia	52
Mrs.	116		119,130,164	Nancy	84
McDaniels, Daniel	74	Thad.	24	Moore, Aaron	139,141
David	79	Wm.L.	201	Aaron D.	202
McDannel, David	105	Mercer, Dr.	199	Family	20
McDonald		Mergy, Catharine	166	Geo.	114
Colonel I.B.	9	Mrs. Anthony	202	George	157,166,179
Jacob	159	Merica, Wm.	166	John P.	159,166
Mary C.	174	Meyers, Sarah	201	Lewis	129
Rebecca	175	Mill, Websters	90	Rachel	63
McEndefer Family	20	Miller, Caroline	202	Morgan, Mrs. W.	201
McEnderfer, Sarah	201	David	175	Morr, Mary	129
McEntarffer		Family	20	Sam	167
Abraham	102	J.A.	2	Morris, Hon. John	8
McGinnis, Caroline	51	Jacob A.	157		163
Wm.	78	John N.	44,96	Judge	23,59,102
McGriffin, Wm.	186	John W.,	174	Judge John	100
McIntosh, Anna Z.	116	Joseph	96	Mr.	199
McIntosh, Mr.	63,98	L.J.	12,34,62	Morrison, Mr.	199
	145,180	Mary	129	Mortimer, Mr.	204
Peter	102	Matilda	85	Mortorff, Samuel	137
W.H.	91,107,108,145	Moses B.	165	Mott, Judge	23
	184	Nancy	201	Mary	105
Wm. H.	191,195	Miller		Mrs.	22
Wm. H.H.	192	Sarah (Smith)	166	Sheridan	23,24
McIntyre		William	96	Moughler, Emma	174
Miss. S.	100,133	Milliman, J.M.	53	Mountz, H.W.	173
McIntyre, Rosemond	128	Milliman, J.M.	73	Mowrie Family	20
Wm.	121	Martha C.	53	Mullenix Family	20
McKay, J.W.	88,89,105	Mary	53	Munger, Capt.	137
Jos. W.	8	Mort	22	Murphy Family	20
Joseph	87	Mills, T.	1,162	Wm.	167
Joseph A.	166	Minkler, Dr.,	145	Musser, John	129
Joseph W.	166	Mise, Eliza	116	Myers Family	21
McKinley, Alex	174	Frank	115	Myers, Eli	167
McMillen Family	20	Miser, D.D.	116	Rev. N.J.	81
Geo. B.	137	Family	20	Natt Family	20
McNabb Family	20	Frank	174	Neidig, Josiah	157
Howard F.	202	John	115	Nelson Family	20,21
Prudence	120	Joseph	105	L.D.	167
Warren	202	Mrs. F.	115	Newcomer, Deb	203
McNall, Wm.	101	Mrs. Peter	201	Nichol Family	20
McQueen Family	21	Miser		Marietta	167
William	51	Sarah (Treash)	120	Nidig Family	21
Wm. H.	73	Mochamer, Samuel	128	Nimmons, F.W.	141
Mead, Mary	157	Monroe, Didamia	167	P.B.	3,4,9,13,14,43
Meade, Daniel b.	66	G.B.	115,131,157		63,74,79,82,87,104



108,113,114,163	Parnell, John	9	James	138,141,195	
Phillip B.	121	Richard	9	Puff, Sam	24
Noel, P.	43,71,82,105	Parsons, S.E.	53	Puffenberger, Mrs.	23
Phil	108,186	Patee, E.J.	166	Pyle, John	115
Philip	58,59,63,73	Paterson, G.I.	108	John H.	166
79,84,87,88,89,98,100	Patterson, G.I.	79	John W.	201	
114,141,145		115,120,138	Mary J.	166	
Phillip	13,157	G.L.	100	Rainier, J.	62
Norris Family	20	I.	74	Jos.	12,116,195
Mrs. Isaac	137	Patterson		Joseph	88,162
W.L.	167	Mrs. G.I.	115	Rakestraw, Russel	164
Notestine, Peter	87	W.C.	135,147	Ralston, A.J.	3,88
Nugen, Silas	111	Paulin, Ada	166	111,114,124,138,152	
Nugent, S.H.	117	Pennell Family	20	166,172,173,174,177	
Nusbaum, Mrs. W.H.	162	Pepple, Anna	129	186,194,201	
	164	Mary	166	Coop.	24
Oberlin, Eugene	143	Perry, Moses	53	G.C.	12
F.D. 71,82,84,89,105		Pierce, Mr.	199	Jack	24
Oberlin		Pinchin, A.F.	71,82	Mrs. E.J.	105
Mrs. Eugene	143		84,87,89	S.M.	86
Wm.	157	Platter Family	20	S.W.	1,12,23,47,59
Oberlin, F.D.	87	J.W.	157	60,62,63,87,89	
Ochs, Isaac	23	James	43,44,51,113	Samuel W.	51
Lewis	23		115,155,163	Ramsey, Elizabeth	201
Simon	23	Jas.	47	Raub, Joseph G.	120
Oden, Mary J.	201	John	2,44,96,180	Mrs. E.	174
Olds Family	21	Plum, Guy	4,8	Peter	102
M.E.	72,131	Mrs. Phil	137	Raut, Charles	116
Mr.	48	Plumb, Dick	24	Reaver, Abraham	51
Olinger, Barbara	128	Guy	24	Recktenwald, Joseph	
Jacob	167	Plumm, Mrs. Jerry	98		125
John	117,157	Pomeroy, J.E.	139,178	Reed, C.R.	152
John S.	167	Pooler, Hiram	128	Emily	167
Osborn, A.C.	159	Porter		J.H.	203
Aaron	44	Catharine McEndarffe		R.S.S.	167
Jane	159		101	Reese, Margaret	129
John	44	Family	21	Reeves Family	20
Osbn, A.C.	115	John B.	105	Reinoehl, Elizabeth	
Henry	175	Powell Family	20	125,126	
Jane	115	W.B.	82	S.	131
Osburn Family	20	Powers		Reinohl, Peter	202
Osgood, Lottie	12,62	Hon. Stephen A.	143	Revett, Jas.	98
Mrs.	63	Judge	85	Reynolds, Lucy A.	202
Otto, John	1	Judge S.A.	136	Rhodes Family	20
Owen Family	20	Senator	179	J.	2
Owens, John C.	129	Steve	178	Jeremiah	52,81
Marshall	105	Prentis, Judge	82	Mary	89
Mrs. M.	98	Prentiss, Judge	79	Milas	22,52
Packer Family	20,21	Prentiss		Miles	52
Paisian, Frieda	174	Judge Nelson	78	Rhodes	
Palmerton, Sarah	174	Nelson	3,71,87,102	Mrs. Jeremiah	52
Park, Ame	23	Probst, Henry	71,74	Mrs. Polly	52
Family	20	Prosser, Joseph	117	Rice, Rev. J.	9
Wesley	89,96,180,183	Joseph C.	165	Ricket, Mr.	67,68
Parks, Henrieta B.	124	Provines, Alex	1	Rickett, Rachael	175
Parmerton, John W.	137	Alexander	125,139	Ricketts, Asenath	52

Ira	52	Rufner, Josiah	203	Margaret	108
James	166	Rummel, Lucy M.	105	Sheffer, B.S.	135
Rickle, Mr.	199	Talma	105,111	John	117
Ringer, Jacob	126	Rush, Jerome A.	174	William	174
Robbins, Albert	117	Wm. E.	137	Shellhouse, Henry	174
Ed.	82	Rutledge Family	20	Shepherd, McClellan	13
John	117	Ryan, Miss Frankie	13	Sherlock, J.D.P.	1
Robe Family	20	Sailor, Henry	98	John D.P.	101
Robert Family	20	Salander, Daniel	108	Sherwood, Wm. F.	137
Roberts, Amos	201	Sanson, Isabella	174	Shilling, J.E.	3
W.C.	100	Sattison, Sol.	202	Shippy, Robert	201
William	126	Sawrey, Mrs. W.A.	23	Susan	166
Robertson, Henry	52	Sawyer Family	20	Shoaf, Mary	157
Robinson, Colin	96	George	105	Shoaff, A.P.	79
Robinson		Rev. H.A.	84	Shoemaker, E.R.	1,79
Congressman	139	Sayler, Elizabeth	124	82,84,87,100,105,115	
Family	20	Schaab, W.H.	162	Rheua	192
Hannah	89	Schermerhorn		Shook, S.G.	115
Robinson, Henry	22	William	162	Shoop, Alfred	175
Hon. J.M.	135	Schlosser, Fred	201	Shoub Family	20
Rodenbaugh Family	20	Schmerhorn, Mr.	164	Shoup, William	125
G.	62	Schmitz, Father	172	Showalter, Adaline	53
Thisba	174	Schofield Family	20	Jacob	137
Roger Family	20	Scholes, Frank	114	P.J.	114
Rogers, Chas. T.	166		135	Peter	108
Pauline	201	Schoup, Catherine	108	Shower Family	20
Rohm, Henry	115	Schroyer, L.	202	G.	47
Simon	115	Scott, Mr.	84,103	Showers, G.	2,58,71
Roop, Henry	106	T.P.	88,108	Gilbert	51,89,98
Rose, Attorney	163	Scuder, Dr. U.G.	162	Mahala	63
Family	20	Seberts, Park	194	R.B.	3
Frank	63	Sebring, Minerva W.		Robert	114
Hon. J.E.	172		202	Shryock, J.	47
J.E.	3,4,8,9,12,13	Sechler Family	20	Joseph	51,58
34,43,44,47,62,63,64		Levi	53	Shugers	
71,73,78,79,81,82,84		Mary	53	Catharine (Howman)	
86,88,89,100,107,108		Secor, John H.	174		101
111,113,114,119,120		Seeley, William	177	Shugers, Cory	174
152,163,172,174		Seely, Wm	63	Shull, David	22
J.W.	88,108	Wm.	157	Eli W.	157,194
James	152	Seery, David	106	Family	20,21
James E.	34,98,113	Orlando	201	Henry A.	3
152,164,165,173		Segner, Mariah H.	84	Henry C.	166,175
Jas. E.	105	Sewell, Mary	157	John	73
John	180	Shaefer, Sallie	129	Mary	115
Rose		Shaffer, C.C.	88	Mrs.	122
Judge James E.	154	Shaffer		Mrs. R.	108,130,162
Mr.	16,89,98,108	Christopher C.	119		164
W.A.	159	Shaffer		R.	115
William	174	Cordelia E.	201	Rebecca	106
William A.	174	John W.	108	Rose M.	165
Row, George	126	Ora	12	Susanna	121
Samuel	126	Sarah	175	Shultz, Allen	100,141
Rowe, Edward	159	Susannah	125	Shutt, Hon. S.S.	139
Rude, Arial	9	Shatto, Jesse	81	John	22
Family	21	Sheets, Christian	51	S.S.	105

WM.	89	Somers, J.C.	4	Mary	167
Siebert, Mary	4	Jacob	24	Stroh, Adam	202
Silbeny, S.U.	201	John	24	Emeline	126
Silberg, Catherine	53	Soule, Ellen	105	Family	20
Simanton, Alice	167	Matilda	116	H.P.	114
John H.	167	Sparks, Esther	201	Sarah	44
Simmons, Peter	1,2	Spencer, Col.	132	Strohl Family	20
Simon Family	20	Sponhoner, Andrew	105	Strong Family	20
Jacob	106	Sponhower, Cyrus	124	Sugar Family	20
Jont	105	Sprott, Maj.	89	Summer Family	20
Louisa	121	Maj. S.W.	1,3	Summerlot, Wm.	137
Peter	9	Major	13,22	Sunonds, Ann	201
Sinclair, A.J.	201	Major S.W.	51,163	Surface Family	20
Skillin, Rosanna	108	Mrs.	13	Surfus, John	89
Slaybaugh		S.W.	4,12,13,180	Swander, Mrs. Wm.	117
Hiram H.,	167	T.H.	88,162,172,177	Swartz, Mrs. Dr.	8
Slentz, John C.	174	Thos. H.	173	Swigert, Amos	167
Smalley, Jonathan	201	Squier Family	20	Swihart, Rebecca	89
Loretta A.	201	Squires, Ann	202	Samuel	98
Smith, A.J.	84	Nathan	108	Tarney Family	20
Abel	159	St. Clair, A.M.	167	S.J.	166
Adam	73	John C.	121	S.U.	88
Andrew	129	Stafford, Dock	116	Taylor, John	114
Christian	114	Family	20	D.H.	98,136,140
David	166	J.K.	135,167	Oscar	131,139
David T.	174	Joseph	88	Teeters, Lydia	103
Deborah	175	Margaret	167	W.	63
Enos	14	Stahl, A.C.	115	TenEycke, Mr.	164
Ermina	174	Baltzer	137	Teutsch, Michael	129
Family	21	G.W.	22,23,115	Thomas, C.L.	2
Francis	44	Geo. W.	129	Daniel	139,141
Fremont	165	Stambaugh, D.	44	David	41
Helen	128,131	Family	21	David F.	174
Henry	201	Stamets, Leander F.		Elder	67
Isaac B.	180		137	Eliza	157
J. H.,	159	Stealy, George	108	Thomas	
Margaret	159,202	Stearn Family	21	Elizabeth C.	125
Maria	44	Stearns, John	2	Family	20
Mrs.	44	Steele Family	20	John H.	165
Mrs. C.	117	Steves, J.R.	115	John M.	157
Rebecca	53	Mrs. J.R.	115	Jonathan	40,65
William	3	Steward Family	20	Ladd	40
Wm.	13	Stewart, D.W.	131	Mary E.	115
Smurr, E.M.	159	Margaret	53	N.L.	40
G.N.	114	Stimely, Charles	114	Newton	41
George	73	Stonebreaker, John	100	Ralph	150,162
Harvey	159		115	Thomason, J.E.	138
Smurr, Mrs. H.	159	Mrs. John	116,126	Thompson, J.E.	13,43
Perry	202	Stonestreet, D.	84	Joel E.	139
Wm.	202	Storey, William	180	Laura A.	174
Snell, Charles	165	Story Family	20,96	Thomson, J.E.	109
Christina	165	Stough, Dr. Samuel	63	Thrush, Albert	139,194
Snellenbarger		Stoughton, Col. S.J.	23	Thurston Family	21
Eliza	125		23	Tiffany, Lewis	9
Snook Family	21	Straw, F.B.	44	Till, James	108
Snyder, John	159	Strebe, Frank	202	Samuel	98



Tinney, Bill	24	Joseph J.	126	Rachael	174
Tomlinson		Mary J.	129	Wm. R.	78
Charles W.	175	Walters, Mr.	47	Waydleich Family	21
Daniel	174	Walworth Family	20	Weamer, R.H.	1,162
Family	20	Wanemaker, C.B.	2	Weaver, David	3
Geo.	82	C.R.	43	Eli	23
Thomas H.	186	Charles H.	9	Enos	23
Topper, Delila	129	Family	20	Family	20
Wm.	137	H.H.	47	H.D.	162
Topping, Mary	201	Henry	4	Mrs. C.B.	162
Totten Family	20	Henry R.	51	Mrs. Chas.	164
Treeman, Elgar	63	Minerva	51	Regina	166
Treesh, Henry	157	Wannamaker, Samuel	65	Webb, Martha	166
John	8,88,167	Wannemaker, C.R.	13	Webster Family	20
L.W.	105	Henry	163	George	59
Mrs. Harvey	202	Ward, Elder	40,64,71	Laura	108
Peter	3		87	Weeks Family	20
Treesh, Peter	81	Ward, Elder	98	Jimmy	63
Treesh, Rachel	4	Elder S.B.	4,62,63	Lydia A.	175
Treman Family	20		163	Weirick Family	20
Tresh Family	20	Elder S.W.	8	Martha	201
Trover, Miss Maude	108	Harry	24	Welch, Eli	51
Rev.	130	Rev.	199	Mrs. C.	175
Tryon, C.	108	Rev. S.B.	43,64,71	Welker, William N.	66
Tucker, Elizabeth	175		79,82,89	Well Family	20
Tustison		S.B. 3,9,10,12,13,23		Weller Family	20
Charles A.	165		105	Joseph	201
Flora A.	165	Warford, Lavina	166	Wells, Esther	167
M.	167	Warten, S.B.	132	J.C.	3
Martin	115	Wartenbe, S.P.	74,82	Josiah	13
Ulm, Eliva	52		84	Josiah C.	157
Nelson	52	Stewart	90	Westphall, Miss.	79
Updegraph		Wartenbee, S.	98,111	Wetsel, Michael	174
Amanda F.	124	S.P.	71,105	Wheelock, Alpheus	202
Valleau, William	129	Steward	115	Whetsel, Caroline	4
Valleu, Mrs. Wm.	115	Stewart	100,141	Elizabeth	129
Wm.	116	Wartrenbe, Stewart	89	Family	20
Van Duesen, Stephen	202	Wason, Eliza	4	M.	3,157
		Wasson, Lewis R.	201	M.A.	114
Veeley Family	20	Lizzie	157	Michael	157
Vian, Enos	174	Mr.	10	Mrs. M.	114
Vogtman, Andrew	201	Mrs. Samuel	52,98	Whetsell, Wm.	73
Waggoner, George	179	Samuel	2,3,22,25,26	Whiney, D.L.	53
Wagoner, George	23		52,59,64,101	White, E.D.	52
Mary M.	73	Waterman, Ellen	115	Erastus	22,52
Mrs. Wm.	202	Family	21	F.J.	167
Waldon Family	20	Fred	152	Family	20
Walker Family	21	Fred C.	115	Jacob B.	52
John R.	82	Hon. Miles	60	Mr.	47
Wallace, May	84	Jasper	131	Mrs. Erastus	53
Wm.	201	M.	2,13,43,47,58	Susan	52
Walsworth, Amos	116	Miles	51,59,79	Widney, O.H.	147
Levi J.	3	P.C.	63	Byron	166
Mrs.	116	Watson, A.W.	167	Charles	52,74
Wm. J.	116	Family	20	Charles W.	52,117
Walter, C.C.	115	Mary A.	120	D.H.	131,135

Elizabeth	53	119,129	Yates, Miss.	63	
Emily	174	N.	Yesbera, Mr.	13	
Family	20	W.H.	Mrs.	84,103	
Hon. J.P.	85	Wilmott, Geo. W.	121	Zeigler, Mr.	108
J.M.	108	Wilson Family	21	Zerkle, E.A.	201
J.P.	86	Jos.	131	Zerwis, Mathias	174
John	22,52,117	M.R.	167	Zimmerman, Elias	21
John M.	119	Rev. J.N.	132	Family	20,21
Matilda	174	Susan	201	Zimmerman	
May	53	Wineland, Elizabeth	53	George B.	125
Morris	131,145	Wines, Martha	201	John	21,82
Mr. 13,47,63,84,103		Winslow, Mrs.	116	Wilbert	116
Mrs. M.	53	Wise, Annie	98		
Mrs. Nancy	52	Wiseman, Sylvester	114		
O.H. 53,72,141,145			165		
	165	Wolf, George	63		
O.J.	152	Wood Family	20		
O.N.	194	J.D.	82,84		
Oliver	130,139	Woodcox, Byron A.	124		
Rev.	48	C.A.	135		
Rev. A.H.	46,47,49	Family	20		
S.L.	135,166,177	G.W.	52,116		
S.W.	180,195	Mary	51		
Samuel	65,138,192	Solomon	52		
Wiley, Harriet E.	175	Sarah	175		
W.P.	89	Sol.	22		
Willis, F.W.	100	Woods, J.D.	159		
Willard Family	21	Martha	159		
William Family	20	Thomas	129		
Williams Family	20	Wooton, Mr.	100,102		
Gabriel	40	Rev. A.S.	89		
Samuel	201	Worden, Judge	59		
Williamson		Work, Robert	73		
Margaret	175	Wright, Ed.	59		
Willis, Capt.	130	Wyant, Ellen	89		
Capt. M.B.	192,194	John P.	85		
	202	Rebecca H.	85		
Willis, F.W.	98,105	Wyatt, Daniel	157		
	107,152	Elmer	157,165		
Frank	199	Ephraim	167		
Frank W.	186,202	Family	20		
H. 13,47,58,63,77,80		Hugh	52		
	82	John	53,82,131,136		
H.C.	192	John W.	157		
Henry	4,51,59,71,73	Julia	157		
	74	Martha	157		
Willis		Mr.	111		
Hon. Frank W.	154	Mrs.	98		
Josephine	192	Wyatt, Mrs. Nancy	52		
M.B. 82,84,88,98,100		Sammy	74		
102,104,108,114,119		Sarah J.R.	78		
124,127,128,139,145		Susan	174		
172,173,177		Theodore	137		
M.D.	120	Wycoff, Mary	116		
M.R. Sr.	131	Wyrick, Mrs. Peter	108		
Moses B. 102,105,106		Yard, John Sr.	121		



# Book preserves history of 'Old Settlers' meetings

By KATHRYN BASSETT  
The labor of love of a Waterloo man and his mother has opened the door on early life in DeKalb County.

searching through news reports, financial reports and minutes of the DeKalb County Old Settlers meetings. They have transcribed the details that bring to life those early days and compiled them into a book: Old

Settler's Meetings, DeKalb County, Indiana, 1878-1913. The book recalls the first gathering of Old Settlers on July 4, 1878. At the meeting, it was resolved that all who were citizens of the county before Jan. 1, 1846, were invited to participate in future meetings.

A committee of two people from each township was appointed to find out the number of old settlers in the townships, and notify and encourage them to attend the next meeting, scheduled for Sept. 12. The efforts were fruitful as 65 people

ing. The group's annual meeting was set for the third Thursday in June each year and a report of the first annual meeting in 1879 showed between 3,000 and 4,000 people attended.

The book includes many colorful reports of the group's meetings. An excerpt from the Auburn Courier, June 26 1879, states: "Peter Kiser of Fort Wayne being present, was requested to address the meeting until noon, but he considering it an insult to him to be limited, refused to speak."

The report goes on to describe an axe that was used to chop timber for the first house in DeKalb County. The house belonged to John Houlton of Franklin Township. "The axe now weighs six-and-a-half pounds, but originally its weight was between eight and nine pounds," the report says.

The book charts the group's annual reunions and a report describes the meeting of June 21, 1883, as "The greatest held yet." The meeting marked an important milestone in DeKalb County history, that being the 50th anniversary of the county's settlement. The old settlers met in an old orchard on the banks of the St. Joseph River near the mouth of Bear Creek, near St. Joe. Music at the celebration was provided by the Auburn Choir, St.

**"Not a drunken man was in evidence, everyone was well clothed and in their right mind, and all on their good behavior."**  
— newspaper account of 1912 reunion

The Choir and the Torrance Band.

But the weather had no reverence even for such a momentous occasion and a report recounts, "It had been raining steadily all the forenoon and this now increased to a brisk shower. The crowd, however, persisted in standing out in the rain and hearing, and the orator did the best he could under the circumstances, speaking most of the time with an umbrella held over his head."

In 1890, a resolution was adopted, amending the organization's constitution. It stated all people who had lived in northern Indiana for 50 years or in DeKalb County since Jan. 1, 1846 were pioneers and all who lived in northern Indiana for 40 years before any annual meeting were considered old settlers. Both groups were considered members of the association.

The annual old settlers meeting of 1906 took place Sept. 4 at Hamilton Grove on the banks of Fish Creek in Franklin Township. It was held in connection with the Houlton Family reunion, in commemoration of the date when the first log cabin was built by John Houlton and his wife on Sept. 4, 1833.

In 1907, the group celebrated its Pioneer Jubilee and anyone coming to DeKalb County before Jan. 1, 1847, was considered a pioneer.

The book includes an article

from the Auburn Courier, Sept. 19, 1907, describing the jubilee scene: "Most of these pioneers are bent with the weight of years and they bear evidence of having bravely met the hardships of the early days."

In 1912, the Old Settlers had their 36th annual reunion in Butler. Reports state men went out in 15 vehicles and made a trip over the whole county, distributing bills about the event to all farm houses, as well as homes in towns.

Their efforts paid off with 6,000 people attending the reunion. A Waterloo Press report included in the book recalls the feature of the day was an industrial parade, with more than 50 floats and vehicles, four bands and other attractions participating.

"Not a drunken man was in evidence, everyone was well clothed and in their right mind, and all on their good behavior," the reporter observed.

The final meeting in the series took place in Waterloo in 1913. About 400 old settlers were registered and 2,000 people turned out. Reports recall automobiles were provided "to give the old settlers a ride over the town" and there were fireworks in the evening.

The book is also dotted with photographs of notable people in DeKalb County's early history.

Included is Jacob D. Leighty, the man who saw the possibility of a town between Hicksville and Auburn. He turned the possibility into a reality when he and his father bought the Blair Farm, on which they platted and laid out the town of St. Joe.

The first lawyer who settled in DeKalb County, the Honorable Robert Benson Mott, is also pictured, along with John Edgar Buchanan, the founder and manager of the Auburn Dispatch and The

(See **SETTLERS**, page A13)

## SETTLERS

(Continued from page A1)  
Evening Star and general manager of the Auburn Printing Co.

One of DeKalb County's former landmarks, the old county jail, is featured in the book, along with details of the building's history. It was constructed in 1875 by James R. Duncan, William Crane and Harmon Lydeker of Waterloo at a cost of \$28,647. The jail had 12 cells and was located on the southeast corner of the public square and remained there for several years after the courthouse was built. The old jail was razed to the ground in 1919 after a new jail was completed.

Two other notable citizens pictured are James McClanahan, who was elected mayor of Auburn in 1903, and Hugh Culbertson, who was elected mayor in the fall of 1909.

Many other people are featured

in the book and all names mentioned in the reports are indexed.

Goodwin said the project is a realization of something he and his mother have always wanted to do.

He explained the importance of the settlers' meetings in the early years of the county, considering the primitive modes of travel and lack of opportunities for socializing.

And he said the names, dates and places recorded in reports and photographs that identify an old settler are important to descendants today.

Goodwin hopes the book will reveal how as time marched on, the county developed into an active community. He believes anyone related to DeKalb County will appreciate the history in the accounts and accredits available details to good record keeping at each of the Old Settler meetings.



**PAGES OF HISTORY** — Alice and John Goodwin hope their compilation of Old Settlers meeting details will give an insight into DeKalb County's olden days. (Star photo by Kirk Serena)

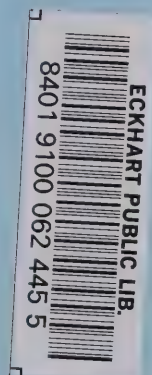




## **Eckhart Public Library**

603 S. Jackson Street Auburn, IN 46706  
Phone: 219-925-2414

Patron is responsible for all  
material borrowed.











HECKMAN  
BINDERY, INC.  
Bound-To-Pleaze®

APRIL 05

N. MANCHESTER, INDIANA 46962



